

## Release of American and French captives encourages UN chief

# Hostage swap moves closer

FROM ADAM KELLIHER IN DAMASCUS AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

WITHIN hours of the release of two more Western hostages in Lebanon, the United Nations secretary-general said yesterday that he believed the kidnappers' actions signalled their desire for a wide-scale exchange of hostages.

Javier Pérez de Cuéllar made his remarks after he met John McCarthy, the British hostage freed last Thursday, at RAF Lyneham, in Wiltshire, to receive a letter from Mr McCarthy's captors, the Islamic Jihad.

As he arrived in Geneva last night to meet United Nations officials, Señor Pérez de Cuéllar said, however, that the letter did "not contain very precise details" and that it did not deal essentially with the exchange of prisoners. He said that the text would be given to journalists today.

The hectic developments surrounding the Western hostages resumed at dawn yesterday with the release of Jérôme Leyraud, the French aid worker abducted only hours after Mr McCarthy was freed. He had been snatched by an unknown group who were apparently trying to thwart any more deals without the liberation of Arab detainees in Israel.

A few hours later Edward Tracy, an American hostage, was released by his kidnappers, members of the Revolutionary Justice Organisation. Last night a senior Lebanese official predicted that a second American hostage, probably Terry Anderson or Joseph Cicippio, should be released in the next two or three days.

After Señor Pérez de Cuéllar took delivery of the Islamic Jihad letter, written in Arabic, he said: "I have to be hopeful. I have here a wonderful signal of their interest in solving the problem — the presence of John [McCarthy] is really something which means a lot."

He said that he was committed to doing everything possible to secure the release of the remaining ten Western hostages in Lebanon, but added that he had long ago discarded the word "optimistic" from his dictionary. "My duty is to maintain my efforts with the co-operation of all the countries directly, or indirectly concerned. I would do whatever is necessary to obtain the release of the hostages; that's what I've been trying for several years."



Edward Tracy: released after 1,758 days



Jérôme Leyraud: released after three days

President Bush, on holiday in Maine, yesterday hailed the release of Mr Tracy as "a positive step", but he said that his enthusiasm was muted by the fact that other Americans were still being held. He urged Israel to pave the way for a comprehensive final resolution of the hostage issue by agreeing to release its Lebanese Shia prisoners.

The president praised Syria, Iran and Lebanon for helping to engineer the release of the hostages. However, when he was asked if the United States would be prepared to make a gesture in return, he said: "I don't think we owe anybody anything when Americans are being held against their will."

Mr Tracy, aged 60, was handed over to the Syrian

authorities in Damascus yesterday morning. Dressed in a white shirt and brown trousers, he looked dazed and exhausted by his ordeal. During an interview with Syrian television, however, he said: "I'm in perfect health. I'm ready to go outside and do the 100-yard dash."

After nearly five years in captivity, he said: "I am amazed that the world is still here... I am amazed and baffled, I can't find the words. I must find the words." He thanked the press for their "lovely turn-out" before he left Syria last night to fly to the US hostage reception centre in Wiesbaden, Germany.

The Revolutionary Justice Organisation, which is still holding Mr Cicippio, aged 61, said in a statement yesterday that Mr Tracy's release was dictated by the "quick developments and positive atmospheres to solve the issue of our detained brothers in prisons around the world, especially Sheikh Abdul-Karim Obeid". The sheikh is a Muslim fundamentalist cleric who was taken from his home in southern Lebanon in August 1989 by Israeli paratroopers.

The momentum for freeing the Western detainees had been interrupted by the abduction of M Leyraud, who worked for Médecins du Monde. The kidnappers, a group calling itself the Organisation to Defend the Rights of Detainees, threatened to execute him if more hostages were set free. However, a huge clampdown by the Lebanese army and police and the Syrian authorities in Beirut forced the group to let him go.

Mr Bush said yesterday that he believed Mr Tracy's release was "a step towards the latest Middle East peace efforts which promise to address Palestinian grievances. He spoke of a 'new-found co-operation' of 'new incentives' for the parties involved to resolve the hostage issue and of 'an overall climate internationally' that should encourage hostage-takers to reconsider.

By putting Iran and Syria and by putting pressure on Israel, Mr Bush appeared to be trying to move that process forward, although he is constrained by America's policy of not negotiating or dealing with hostage-takers.

Mr Bush did not refer to Israel by name, but he clearly had the Jewish state in mind when he called on all "governments with influence on



In step: Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN secretary-general, and John McCarthy at RAF Lyneham yesterday after the handing over of the letter from Islamic Jihad

this issue to work for the release of all hostages, regardless of their nationality". Asked if his remark applied to Israel, he said: "Everybody that's held as a hostage should be released by every country, whichever it is."

Moche Arens, the Israeli defence minister, said on American television yesterday

that his country was ready to exchange Lebanese "terrorists" for Israeli prisoners held in Lebanon, but first the Hezbollah, the main militant Shia organisation, should provide evidence that the Israelis were still alive.

"That's the first thing that's required before we go any further," he said. "I think if we

got that, we will have taken a very great step forward and we could go, possibly, the rest of the way." Señor Pérez de Cuéllar said of the Israeli statement yesterday: "I'm sure that they will co-operate."

Reports and analysis, pages 2-3  
Diary, page 13

## McCarthy tells those left behind: keep the faith

FROM LIN JENKINS AT RAF LYNEHAM

A MESSAGE of hope has been sent by John McCarthy to the fellow hostages whose strength, dignity and humour helped him survive the endless hours in captivity.

The television journalist's delivery, the first time he has spoken publicly since his homecoming on Thursday, was alternately fluent and halting, illustrating the difficulties he faces in adapting to freedom.

After 1,943 days spent imprisoned Mr McCarthy could clearly imagine what was going through the mind of Edward Tracy as the American left his prison of darkness and fear. "I know exactly what he is feeling and what it is like seeing the sun, the trees and the people as he is driving along."

His message to those still incarcerated, in particular Terry Waite and American hostages Terry Anderson and Tom Sutherland was to keep the faith: "It is my belief that the kidnappers do want to end the situation and with the good offices of the [United Nations] secretary-general and everybody else, it will come to an end soon. It will not be too long, I'm sure."

Having been allowed to listen to the BBC World Service and the Voice of America, Mr McCarthy was convinced that his words would reach those still held. The three men had been vital to his survival and, he believed, had helped his transition to freedom. "They are men of enormous strength, dignity and humour and the friendship we have had has supported each other mutually and I think that is why I can appear as I am. I owe everything to those men and, before them, Brian Keenan."

His apparent well-being and relaxed demeanour as he stood in blazer and tie on the airfield at RAF Lyneham, Wiltshire, were, he quipped, the result of "drugs". But while he is under the care of a medical team from the RAF hospital at Wroughton, he is understood to have taken little

more than a sleeping draught. "I do feel generally relaxed," he said, explaining that his strength, dignity and humour helped him survive the endless hours in captivity.

He said he was taking life day by day and planned to stay at the VIP suite on the airbase with his father Pat and brother Terence. When asked about returning to work he suggested it might

be three months before that was possible. "My plans now are to continue here working with the doctors and getting reacquainted with my family and friends. We are doing this at a very slow level, taking it easy."

A letter to Mr McCarthy from Mr Keenan, said that he felt he would have benefited by a longer stay in one place on a longer stay home. Medical advice has also been that the transition should be slow, as kidnappers are often bewildered and frightened by people and activity.

Mr McCarthy has spent some time fulfilling a promise to speak to the families of his fellow hostages. He had already discussed Mr Waite's condition with an official from Lambeth Palace. Mr McCarthy has spoken by telephone to Mr Anderson's sister, Peggy Say, in America. He told her how Mr Anderson had helped him cope last year when he learnt that his mother had died in 1989. Mrs Say said that when asked if the campaign to free hostages had prolonged their captivity, he suggested that it probably had not. He added: "Even if it did, you can't believe what it meant to us, that when we felt abandoned by the world, the news that we were not forgotten kept our spirits up."

They are men of strength, dignity and humour

### TODAY IN THE TIMES

#### SERVANT PROBLEM

When the Marchioness of Aberdeen conducted a singing class for the staff at Haddo House in 1945, she revived memories of a 100-year-old controversy Page 18

#### GOOD SPORTS

Where David Wilkie led (straight to a US college scholarship), other young British sports hopefuls are increasingly eager to follow — but at what cost? Page 25

#### TURKISH DESPAIR

Where are the best Greek ruins? In Turkey. Matthew Parris blames Margaret Thatcher for one of the best sleights of hand in marketing history Page 12

Arts	11, 16
Births, marriages, deaths	14, 15
Business	15, 24-26
Classified	15, 24-26
Court & social	15, 18
Crosswords	14, 25
Education	24, 25
Law Report	22
Leading articles	13
Letters	13
Life and Times	14
Obituaries	14
Sport	27-32
TV & radio	17
University degrees	22
Weather	18

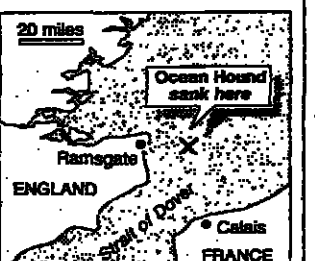
## Search for crew after ship sinks

By BILL FROST

AN air and sea search was still underway last night for four men missing, feared drowned, after their fishing vessel sank 15 miles off Ramsgate on the Kent coast.

The body of one crewman was recovered yesterday morning amid floating debris from the Ocean Hound, a 43-tonne trawler which went down shortly after 6.00am in one of the world's busiest shipping lanes. The owner of the vessel, which is registered in Brixham, Devon, went to Kent to help with police enquiries.

The dead fisherman was not identified, but relatives of the crew have been informed. Kent police said there were five aboard the Ocean Hound when she went down, includ-



ing the skipper and his son. The crew were last night named as Alan Nicholson, the captain of Ocean Hound, aged 37, James Nicholson, his son, aged 17, and Mark Davies, aged 26, the mate. Also aboard were Andrew Nash, aged 30 and Keith Curtis, aged 54. The Nicholson sons were from Paignton, Devon and the

Continued on page 18, col 4

## Rain and Richardson open Test

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

RICHIE Richardson, the West Indies batsman, produced a masterly unbeaten century yesterday to put the final Test with England at the Oval in the balance. With splendid half-centuries from Hooper and Richards, Richardson took his team to 356-6, a lead of 113, when rain and bad light stopped play. The weather is expected to be dry and sunnier today.

Nigel Mansell's hopes of securing a fourth consecutive grand prix win were dashed in Budapest when he came second to Ayrton Senna, of Brazil. Senna leads the championship by 12 points.

Reports, page 32

## Twenty-two chase every job vacancy

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

EVERY notified job vacancy in the UK is now being chased by 22 unemployed people, according to a new analysis by The Times of current trends in unemployment.

The computer-based analysis shows that the number of unemployed chasing each vacancy notified to the employment department is considerably more than double the figure a year ago.

The disclosure of the high and sharply increasing number of unemployed chasing vacancies precedes a further rise in overall unemployment to be announced by the government this week. Unemployment in July is expected to have risen by up to a further 60,000. The increase, the sixteenth successive rise since

unemployment started to increase last year, will take total seasonally adjusted unemployment to about 2.35 million.

Although the government is braced for another rise in the number out of work, if the increase is of this order, in line with trends projected by employment department statisticians, ministers will take some comfort from the monthly increase continuing to get smaller.

Vacancies notified to Job Centres — generally reckoned by the department to be about a third of total vacancies in the economy — have fallen sharply in the past year, and

Continued on page 18, col 5  
Economic View, page 21

## Pembleton Jones, the hero who never was

By ALAN HAMILTON

HE WAS a rum cove, Pembleton Jones. Never did like the cut of his jib. Bounder's been rumpled, you know. Perfectly howling phoney. Head boy at Westminster? Not in my time, old thing. Stroked for Cambridge in the '05 boat race? Balderdash. Raided King Imhotep's tomb in 1918? Bunkum. D'you know, the chap wasn't even Welsh.

Not only was Pembleton Jones not Welsh, not a member of the Royal Historical Society, not a Fellow of Trinity, not a famous explorer and not an archaeologist, he never existed at all. Trusthouse Forte, which dedicated a restaurant in one of its Cardiff hotels to his career and decorated it with his supposed memorabilia, is

now in trouble for the pretence.

Jones's spectacular reputation was called into question when Desmond Keane, a Cardiff-born QC, dined at the Crest hotel and was so intrigued by the exploits of a Welsh hero of whom he had not heard that he decided to investigate. No one at the hotel, nor anywhere else, knew the first thing about him. The hotel manager finally confessed to the deception.

The honours board from Westminster preparatory school was bogus. The Cambridge oar was a fake. The life-size Egyptian soldier, far from being the spoils of a pharaoh's tomb, was the product of some twentieth-century pub-themed workshop. The notes from Jones's diary,

supposedly penned en route to Algiers, were the work of a copywriter specialising in "ye olde Englishe fayre" menu garbage.

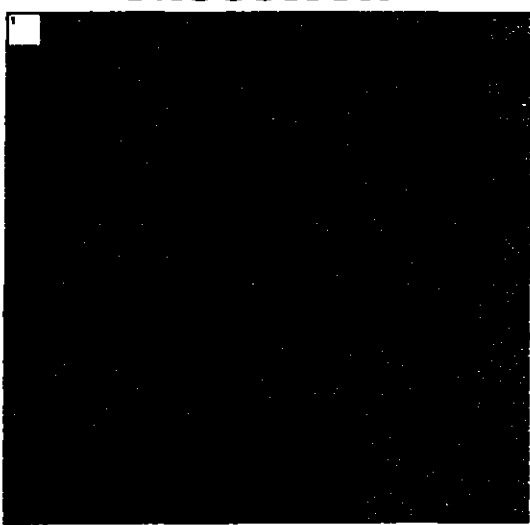
"I think this is a deplorable deception," Mr Keane said yesterday. "The man is an impostor, and I was very annoyed to discover that the hotel had chosen someone who never existed when they could have chosen any one of a number of Welsh heroes." Mr Keane suggested Maurice Turnbull, the Glamorgan and England cricketer who died in action at the Normandy landings in 1944.

Pembleton Jones claimed membership of the Royal Historical Society and Trinity College, Cambridge; both are demanding that their names should not be taken in vain. "We have

written to the hotel asking them to remove all references to our society," the society said. "This man is not and never has been a member." Dr Richard Glauert, junior bursar at Trinity, said the college was "not very happy about it at all," and would write to seek an end to such nonsense.

Trusthouse Forte remains somewhat unrepentant, claiming that customers enjoy the joke. "After all, Biggles was never in the RAF and Raffles never played cricket for England," a spokeswoman said. Yes but, dash it all, those chaps were English; more dignity than to lend their names to a mere tuckshop. But what about Raffles hotel in Singapore? Different cove altogether, old thing.

### CROSSWORD



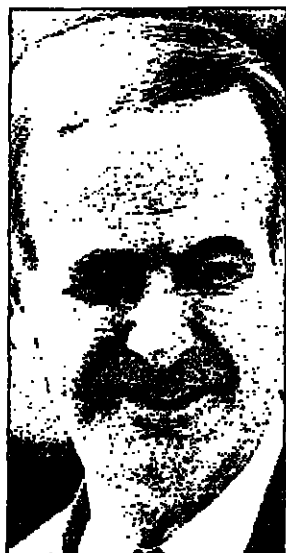
ACROSS

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Nothing should disturb that Condor moment.



# Everything on offer in the souk except faith in Israeli intent



Assad: Surprised all with offer to negotiate

FAITH in Israel's intentions is about the only thing you can't find in the al-Hamidiyah souk of Damascus, the most classical and bustling of the Middle East.

The rich assault on the senses begins upon leaving the jammed streets of Damascus and entering the vast arcade under a looming corrugated iron roof. Ahead lies a teeming passage of humanity, for this is a magnet that draws the crowds to spend their money on all the souk's remarkable offerings.

Small boys appear at your elbow, and in various languages offer to sell watches, electronics, carpets, jewellery or anything they think might take your fancy. Hawkers bellow out their

sales pitch at high speed and higher decibel level that makes horse-racing commentators sound demure. Porters barge past with goods-laden trolleys, trying to meet some crucial deadline, deftly swerving around the crippled beggars.

Shops bulge with a plethora of goods both bizarre and basic: lurid sequinned dresses, stuffed foxes, plastic dolls and exquisite antiques. A man wears a fez not to delight the foreign tourist, but as a comfortable mobile storehouse for his fat wads of notes.

Apart from the occasional off-duty diplomat or United Nations soldier, the crowd is a cross section of the Middle East, Iranian women in full purdah, sveite ladies from

With Damascus playing a central role in hostage releases and the peace process, Adam Kellier asks Syrians if they can live with Israel

Lebanon, and tall, proud people in the vibrant dress of the Sudan.

Within this ancient bastion of free enterprise in the world's most continuously inhabited city, where the portraits of President Assad seem an afterthought, the peace efforts of James Baker, the US Secretary of State, and the optimism engendered by hostage releases are broadly welcomed. Assad and Syria hope to reap the reward of helping to obtain hostage releases, as the cap-

tives pass through Damascus and thank the Syrian authorities on Damascus television. But there is scepticism about real Middle East change.

"All visitors come here," said Abed Chacha, the effusive owner of a large copperware shop in the heart of the souk. "Mr Carter and Mr Carrington, Mr Nixon was here, and Mr Kissinger and two Mr Rockefeller. But Mr Baker and his friends, I did not see. He has very little time."

Many people interviewed at random do not believe Israel will ever be compelled to leave the strategic Golan Heights, which it annexed in 1981 after conquering them in the 1967 Arab-Israeli conflict.

"If you want this plate, and I say you can't take it, then you will have to use force," said one shopowner named Mohammed, earnestly waving about a dish. "Unfortunately, that's the way of life. Arabs are now weak, and the Americans are the only ones that have any force over Israel."

The desire for peace is linked with practical hopes that any deal with Israel will allow the government to redirect some funds away from the military, which

now swallows up more than half of Syria's public expenditure. But although President Assad's recent announcement that he was ready to negotiate with Israel surprised many, everyone accepts that in Syria, public opinion has little influence on foreign policy.

"If the government is untruthful or realistic, the people don't dare to say. Nobody knows what is behind the doors," said one middle-aged trader. "They are afraid of politics because politics brings trouble for them."

The souk veers off into a warren of shops. Crowds mill about a young man scooping ice cream into cups from a massive mound topped with pistachio nuts.

A plump chef with a knife backs *shwarma* (pieces from a sizzling lump of flesh).

But the real respite is at the street's end in the Omayyad Mosque, an Islamic sanctuary which dates back to the 8th century. Within the high brick walls hundreds stroll in and out of the vast prayer room, some praying towards Mecca, others just pondering in silence on plush carpets.

"Everyone has a relative who has been killed or wounded or lost. War brings only pain," said one young man, relaxing in the outside courtyard. "All Arabs are fed up with this, but peace will take a long time. It has taken 10 years to get peace between Israel and Egypt, so what about the whole region? I think it will take 50 years."

## ISRAEL

### Pressure to free Arabs infuriates Jerusalem

FROM BEN LYNFIELD IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL bristled yesterday at the increased international pressure on the Jewish state to free Muslim prisoners as a goodwill gesture to spur the release of more Western hostages being held in Beirut.

Uri Lubrani, Israel's co-ordinator of activities in Lebanon, said: "Israel responds with bitterness when international pressure is applied to it for an exchange. Until it is made clear where our own prisoners in Lebanon are and who is holding them, we will not be persuaded by foreign pressures."

In another development, the South Lebanon Army militia, which is financed and equipped by Israel, demanded that three of its fighters be released by Hezbollah (the fundamentalist Party of God) as part of any exchange. General Antoine Lahd, who commands the SLA, said that in addition to backing Israel's demand that fundamentalist groups release seven missing Israeli servicemen, the SLA would not compromise until three of its own fighters were set free.

General Lahd said: "We are ready to release Lebanese prisoners only on condition that Israeli army and SLA prisoners are also freed. There is no sign that anything is being done for Israeli and SLA prisoners." The commander of the militia said that Hezbollah had contacted him a month ago to explore the possibility of a prisoner exchange, and that he had

expressed his readiness to do so. However, the pro-Iranian group had broken off contact without an explanation.

Since Thursday, Britain has been urging Israel to keep up the hostage-release momentum by freeing some of the more than 300 Muslim prisoners it is holding in southern Lebanon. Britain is also asking that Israel free, as a gesture to Shia groups, Sheikh Abdel Karim Obeid, a Shia cleric seized two years ago in southern Lebanon by an Israeli commando unit.

But Israeli officials say that any unilateral Israeli move will undermine prospects for the release of the seven Israeli servicemen missing in Lebanon. The whereabouts of most of the seven are unknown and some may be dead, Israeli officials have acknowledged.

But Israel views the momentum generated by the release of Western hostages as offering a possible last chance to regain living Israelis as well as remains of the dead, from the groups believed to be holding them.

Ehud Olmert, the health minister, emerging from yesterday's weekly cabinet meeting, urged those pressing Israel to understand that the guiding principle of Israel's policy on the hostage issue was the safety of its servicemen. "If we take a step that stems from the needs of others and does not serve the interests of the Israeli prisoners, we will be falling short in carrying out a supreme moral duty of freeing the Israelis," he said.

Benjamin Netanyahu, the deputy foreign minister, sought to shift the glare of the international spotlight away from Israel, to Syria and Iran. "As we have been telling everyone, the address for the release of the hostages is first of all the governments of Iran and Syria," Mr Netanyahu said. "When Iran and Syria actually decide to release a hostage to advance their own political objectives, then they have the ability to do so," he added.

Referring to the freeing in Beirut yesterday of Frenchman Jérôme Leyraud, Mr Netanyahu said: "When they [the Syrians and Iranians] decide to cancel an unauthorized kidnapping they have the ability to do so."

## PALESTINIANS

### Warning given on extremists

FROM ADAM KELLIER IN DAMASCUS

NAYIF Hawatmeh, leader of one of the main factions of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, gave warning of a new outbreak of hostage-taking if the Middle East peace process collapses because of Israeli wrangling over who will represent the Palestinians at the proposed October conference.

The secretary-general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine said he believed a breakdown of the peace process on some disputed point would mean more hostage-taking, hijackings and bombings. The PLO would be marginalised and extremists, such as the Hamas and the Islamic Jihad, now expanding their following in the occupied territories, would assume leadership of the Palestinian people.

"If our realistic policy fails, it means automatically that Hamas will take the new generation," he said. "The role of Islamic fundamentalism will grow." Given the PLO's meagre bargaining position, the spectre of a return of classical terrorism is one way of making the group look preferable, since they have renounced armed struggle.

The work of would-be Palestinian radicals would be more difficult now than in the 1970s, when money and training were given by most Arab governments and Warsaw Pact nations were eager to help any anti-Western movement. The PLO became politically isolated when it backed Iraq in the Gulf war.



On the other side: members of Hezbollah being held in Khiam detention centre, which is run by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army

## KHIAM PRISON

### Tranquil setting hides a forbidding barracks

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

WILLOW, poplar and mulberry trees on the Plain of Springs in southern Lebanon create a deceptively harmonious setting for the Khiam detention centre.

But this pastoral scene quickly gives way to the watchtowers, barbed-wire and security lights surrounding the old French army barracks, leaving any visitor in little doubt about the harsh realities of life in Israel's self-declared security zone. Until last week the plight of the estimated 400 inmates at the centre, run by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA), generated only mild interest in a handful of human rights organisations. Former inmates have given extensive accounts of abuse by the militiamen, who run the security zone as a private fiefdom beyond the laws of both Lebanon and Israel.

The nine-mile deep "security zone" was established in 1985 when Israel withdrew from Lebanon after the three-year war which came after the 1982 invasion, code-named "Operation Peace for Galilee". Israeli troops operate in the security zone alongside the militiamen with the aim of preventing armed infiltration across Israel's northern border. But complaints to the

Israeli authorities about the militia's behaviour have been brushed aside by the defence ministry in Tel Aviv as "strictly an internal Lebanese matter".

However, the fate of these forgotten prisoners, who have never been charged, tried or even represented by a lawyer,



has suddenly become the focus of world attention from the White House to Downing Street after last week's release of John McCarthy in Beirut. Yesterday Mr McCarthy delivered a letter from his kidnappers to Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations secretary-general, demanding the release of the Khiam

detainees and scores of other Lebanese prisoners held in Israel itself in exchange for the ten Westerners still held in Lebanon. Although the Israelis are insisting that nobody will be freed unless seven missing Israeli servicemen and three SLA militiamen are also part of the deal, many Khiam prisoners are closer to freedom now than at any time since their incarceration in the mid-1980s.

Whether or not the inmates have realised their sudden value in the world hostage market is unclear. Most are not allowed visitors, letters or any contact with the outside world, and far from being a collection of "imprisoned terrorists", as some Israeli newspaper suggest, many are only young Lebanese men who have fallen foul of the local militia.

They, as well as the hardcore Hezbollah militiamen who are also detained at Khiam are likely in the present climate to walk free one day, although the fate of the only woman inmate is less certain. Suha Beshara has been held in the prison since 1988 when she shot and wounded the SLA commander, Antoine Lahd, in a failed assassination attempt.

## IRAN

### Mitterrand's trip to go ahead

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN PARIS

PRESIDENT Mitterrand has ruled out cancelling a planned autumn trip to Iran until an investigation is concluded into the murder of Shapour Bakhtiar, the former Iranian prime minister.

Three Iranian men are believed to have killed Dr Bakhtiar, aged 76, and Katibeh Fallouch, his senior aide, during a visit Tuesday to Dr Bakhtiar's home outside Paris.

The presidential palace issued a statement quashing speculation that M Mitterrand might postpone the trip, scheduled for October. He would be the first head of a leading Western nation to visit Iran since the 1979 Islamic revolution.

A decision "is premature as long as the investigation is taking place into the assassination of John McCarthy on Thursday by his pro-Iranian Lebanese kidnappers," it said. M Mitterrand has made no comment on the murders apart from offering condolences to Dr Bakhtiar's widow.

The killings have come at a sensitive time. France and Iran are on the verge of normalising relations, severed since the revolution and worsened since by Iranian-inspired terrorism.

Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, former Iranian president, also an exile in Paris, have both blamed Tehran for the killing. France summoned Ali Akbar, the Iranian ambassador, to the foreign ministry on Friday. But the embassy in Paris blamed the murders on struggles between exiled opposition factions.

A Tehran newspaper said yesterday that the murder of Dr Bakhtiar, a staunch opponent of the Islamic regime, was aimed at undermining ties with France. The English-language *Kayhan International* also said that similar attempts could be made to tarnish slowly improving relations with London. That was apparently a reference to the release of John McCarthy on Thursday by his pro-Iranian Lebanese kidnappers.

Hours after Mr McCarthy's release, a French aid worker, Jérôme Leyraud, was kidnapped in Beirut by a previously unknown group. It threatened to kill him if any more Western hostages were freed.

The kidnappers freed M Leyraud yesterday after a massive manhunt in Beirut led by Syria and Lebanon.

## US team goes to Jordan for talks

Amman — An American team has arrived in Amman from Israel to draft a memo of understanding with Jordan on proposed peace talks, according to an American embassy spokesman.

The team — Daniel Kurtzer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs, Edmund Hull, of the national security council, and Aaron Miller, from the State Department — met senior Israeli officials before travelling to Jordan. (Reuters)

## New chairman

Beirut — Ali Akbar Mohtashami, chief Iranian supporter of Lebanese hostage-takers, has been elected chairman of the Iranian parliament's defence committee. In contrast with earlier hostage releases, he and other Iranian hard-liners have not objected to the freeing of John McCarthy and Edward Tracy. (Reuters)

## Rescue mission

Beirut — Urs Boegli, a senior official of the International Committee of the Red Cross, has left for Kabul, the Afghanistan capital, to negotiate with opposition groups for the release of Alexandre Gelnew, aged 27, the Swiss Red Cross representative kidnapped outside the city last Tuesday. (AFP)

## UN man killed

Amman — The acting director of a Unesco office in the Jordanian capital has been shot dead. Government sources said Hamad Khawar, from Sudan, was killed when a driver burst into a meeting. Witnesses said the driver seemed upset that he might lose his job and the attack was not political. (Reuters)

## Longer stay

Ankara — Turkish forces operating against Kurdish rebels across the Turkish-Iraqi border may stay in northern Iraq for one to two months, according to Sefa Giray, the foreign minister, even though Mesut Yilmaz, the prime minister, had said on Saturday that the troops would withdraw "in a few days". (AFP)

## Captives' candle

Stansted — A candle kept burning for John McCarthy was extinguished at a simple service in the church at Cornish Hall End, the Essex village home of John's father, Patrick. But a few minutes later it was relit as a reminder of the other kidnapped victims still being held in Lebanon.

## LEBANON

### New government strength secures freedom for Westerners

FROM ALI JABER IN BEIRUT AND JOHN PHILLIPS IN PARIS

THE fast moving events in Beirut at the weekend — first the release of Jérôme Leyraud after three days in captivity, then the release of Edward Tracy after five years — are testimony not only to pressure from Iran on the kidnappers but also to the determination of Syria and the newly united Lebanese authorities to end hostage taking and restore order in Lebanon.

Mr Tracy had lived in Lebanon for 20 years, during which he converted to Islam. He was seized in west Beirut on October 21, 1986. A statement by the Revolutionary Justice Organisation said Mr Tracy's release was dictated by the "quick developments and positive atmospheres in ongoing negotiations to solve the issue of our detained brother-

ers in prisons around the world".

On Thursday, the day John McCarthy was released, a group calling itself the Organisation to Defend the Rights of Detainees abducted M Leyraud, the Beirut administrator of the French relief agency Médecins du Monde. The group threatened to execute him if more Western hostages were freed. It was pressing to secure the freedom of Arab prisoners in Israel and abroad before letting the captives go free.

But a clampdown by the Lebanese army and police and the Syrian forces in Beirut against the dens of Hezbollah in south Beirut pressured the kidnappers to release M Leyraud at dawn yesterday. Police reported that the

Frenchman, aged 26, was left blindfolded in Beir Hassan, south of Beirut. A passing police patrol took him to Major-General Sami al-Khatib, the interior minister, and he was later handed over to French embassy officials.

Security sources said the Lebanese government and the Syrian military command issued a warning to the kidnappers to release M Leyraud within 48 hours or they would liberate him by force. Thousands of Lebanese soldiers and Syrian troops backed by tanks were positioned around the southern suburbs of the capital, the traditional base of Hezbollah in Lebanon.

French officials expressed relief yesterday at the release of M Leyraud, and industrialists who have negotiated



Champagne celebration: Jérôme Leyraud's father Michel, left, and brother Frédéric kissing his mother Aimée on hearing the good news in Grimaud

deals with Iran recently were reassured there is unlikely to be any significant realignment of relations between Paris and Tehran. The foreign ministry thanked Syria and Lebanon for their efforts

in ending the ordeal of M Leyraud, who was expected to arrive in Nice on a French Government aeroplane late last night and then was to be reunited with his parents, who run a newsagents on the

Côte d'Azur. "We are delighted," said his mother. "What happened was an accident. It was a question of mistaken identity. I know my son. He is not a secret agent."

News about Mr Tracy's transfer to Damascus relieved an anxious crowd of security officials and diplo in Beirut. Only one member of that crowd was not so happy. Elham Cicippio, the Lebanese wife of Joseph Cicippio, who was seized in September 1986, nearly burst into tears. Her American husband lost a rare chance to go free to Mr Tracy. She received a brief telephone call and quietly left the hotel leaning on her brother. Her only consolation is in the news that Mr Tracy might have on her husband's condition in captivity.

Fundamentalist sources in Beirut believe there has been a breakthrough over the hostages. They said there were signals that a happy ending awaited ten more foreigners still detained by Shia Muslim militants in Lebanon.



TERRY WAITE

## Envoy with a mission is ace card for captors

By DAVID WAITS, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

AS the hostage releases appeared to accelerate yesterday there remained uncertainty over when Hezbollah might free one of its "aces", Terry Waite. Looming large over each freed hostage making a now familiar nervous appearance before the microphones is the unseen presence of Mr Waite, the envoy of the Anglican church who risked his freedom to free others.

But he is in the sad position of being one of Hezbollah's few remaining levers over the situation; of being one of those who will only be freed once the Muslim fundamentalists are convinced that they have won everything they can from the process. His freedom is still a dreadful uncertainty that even the publication of the Islamic Jihad appeal to the United Nations may not clarify.

John McCarthy confirmed yesterday at RAF Lyneham that Mr Waite is alive, well and happy to have lost some weight. The freeing of the former television journalist has brought the first confirmation that the special representative of the Dr Runcie, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, is still alive despite the years of detention and the complicating political questions that have hung over his particular case.

When he undertook his last mission to Lebanon the Iran-Contra scandal under which the United States supplied missiles to Iran in an apparent attempt to win the release of the CIA Beirut station chief William Buckley had already broken in the world's press.

Mr Waite's possible assistance in the attempts to free Mr Buckley have been a matter for speculation ever since, not least when it was reported that he had been carrying some kind of device through which the United States could track his whereabouts.

Writing in *The Mail on Sunday* under his nom de plume Nigel West, the MP Rupert Allason, author of many books on intelligence, says that the then CIA director, William Casey, was determined to use any means legal or illegal to rescue Mr Buckley, the United States' leading anti-terrorism expert, who was the author of the Phoenix Programme during the Vietnam war in which thousands of communists were killed through an assassination plan using Viet Cong defectors.

"Terry Waite's role was that of an innocent dupe whose function was to provide a cover unwittingly for the illicit sale of embargoed American weapons to Iran," Mr Allason wrote. "He would also supply a plausible reason why an American hostage had been released."

In an interview with *The Times* before he left on his last visit to Beirut, Mr Waite acknowledged that he had had American help in the supply of helicopters for his transport around the country on his previous trips and help in the arrangements with his security.

He also acknowledged contacts with Oliver North who was central to the Iran-Contra affair but appeared to look upon him merely as someone who could be helpful. Indeed, he knew many of those involved in the affair but there is scant public evidence that he knew the detail.

"That's when you get into the speculation," said one observer. "Terry was terribly naive in some ways. He had an image of himself that was all out of proportion. He probably had no idea of what he was involved in."

The former Archbishop Dr Runcie reiterated yesterday in a radio interview that Mr Waite had been co-operating with American church groups in his efforts to free the hostages.

Despite warnings from intelligence professionals and the Foreign Office, Mr Waite refused to abandon his mission, and on January 22 he was seized by Hezbollah while waiting for his Druze bodyguards to escort him back to his hotel from the home of a Lebanese surgeon to whom he made an unscheduled visit.



Waite: freedom still a dreadful uncertainty



Champagne celebration: the Rev Jack Filby leads worshippers in a celebration for the release of hostages at the church where, as a teenager, John McCarthy read the lesson. It was the first time champagne had been consumed at a Church of England service, the vicar said

EDWARD TRACY

## Drifter accepted kidnap as ultimate adventure

By DAVID WAITS

FOR Edward Tracy, his kidnapping was the ultimate adventure in a life spent drifting around the world. When he was freed yesterday he made the past five years seem just another phase, as unremarkable as selling books in places as different and far apart as the Canary Islands and Iraq.

"I've spent five years as a captive, I suppose, but I wouldn't call it that. I'm in perfect health. I'm ready to go out and do the 100-yard dash," he said. Excellent cooking and regular video shows added to what the white-haired Mr Tracy made sound a routine existence as he emerged into the daylight of freedom in Damascus.

Little about his life has been routine since he graduated from Pennsylvania university's Wharton School of Business and worked briefly for IBM, the computer giant, before joining a soup company. According to Doris, his mother, he did not appear to have much ambition beyond that, apart from an enthusiasm for making money.

"He chased money all over the globe," she said. "Sometimes he got it. Sometimes he didn't."

It is a measure of Mr Tracy's peripatetic existence that, until shortly before his kidnapping on October 19, 1986, he had not been in touch

with his mother and had not seen her for more than 20 years. Born in Vermont, he had spent time in Iran, Iraq, Australia, Italy, Trinidad and the Canary Islands as well as Africa. Inge, his former wife, whom he met in Germany, where he had started a beer hall that eventually flopped, now lives in Tenerife, where she has custody of their three daughters.

His captors, the Revolutionary Justice Organisation, claimed that he was a spy for both the CIA and the Israeli Mossad. His captors accused him of being Jewish but his mother said: "We're Irish to the bottom of my bones."

Inge, who spent years with him in Lebanon before their divorce, says he was not a spy then and the odds that he became one after they separated were small, unless he needed the money. "He'd do anything for money," she told a *Burlington* Vermont newspaper in 1986.

Mr Tracy spent two years in the air force, serving in Korea, before starting his wandering. He left his small town roots in 1958, returning only once, in 1965, for a month-long visit to his mother, who still lives in South Burlington.

By the time he moved to Beirut in the mid-1970s, Mr Tracy was 45 and had been roving for nearly 20 years. He and his wife sold English-

language books, mainly encyclopaedias and American classics. Why he stayed in war-torn Beirut is not clear.

Inge told a newspaper that her former husband often wrote cryptic letters which caused her to question his mental state. He once wrote that he was "the father of 5,000 motorcycles". In letters to her neighbours, she said, he wrote that their eldest daughter had married an Arab sheikh and that he had seen their youngest daughter in a film. "The letters were so ridiculous, so crazy, that they did not make sense at all," she claimed.

His mother said: "He's been all over the world. I didn't worry that much." Asked if she had suggested to her son that he leave Beirut, she replied: "I don't suggest to 56-year-old sons."

JOHN MCCARTHY

## Church bubbles over with joy

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

GOD was in his heaven and the taste of Bacchus in his House as champagne corks popped during the hymns yesterday at St Mary's, Broxted, Essex, when worshippers raised their glasses to John McCarthy.

The congregation at the tiny village church where he read the lessons as a teenager drank a toast to him after the Rev Jack Filby, the parish's vicar, urged them to share the joy of his release with shouts.

Mr Filby said he believed it to be the first time champagne had been consumed during a Church of England service. The vicar, on guitar, gave a rendition of *Welcome Home*, accompanied by the clapping of hands and stamping of feet. "Don't be too British, will you," he told parishioners as, halfway through the service, the sidesmen began cracking

open 24 bottles of bubbly. "We have shared the family's sorrows, now we are sharing its joy," said David Pollard, a member of the church committee. "We are doing it in an extravagant way, but we feel that extravagance is what is called for."

But the biggest cheer in the 13th-century church was reserved for the announcement that Edward Tracy, an American hostage, had been released. Prayers were said for Terry Waite, Jack Mann and the other remaining hostages.

A thanksgiving service for Mr McCarthy was held at the journalists' church of St Bride's in Fleet Street. At the parish church of All Saints, Blackheath, south London, where Terry Waite worshipped, prayers were said for the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy.

CAPTIVES

## Ten men who still wait for freedom

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE release of the American captive Edward Tracy and the French relief worker Jerome Leyraud yesterday left ten Westerners still missing in Lebanon, the longest held of all being Terry Anderson, aged 43, the chief Middle East correspondent of The Associated Press, who was kidnapped on March 16, 1985, by Islamic Jihad.

Terry Waite, aged 52, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, disappeared on January 20, 1987 during a mission to free Western hostages. Another Briton, Jack Mann, aged 77, a Second World War fighter pilot who saw combat in the Battle of Britain, disappeared in Beirut on May 12, 1989. A group called the Cells of Armed Struggle claimed they had kidnapped a Briton, without naming him.

Thomas Sutherland, aged 60, and Scottish born, was acting dean of agriculture at the American University of Beirut when he was abducted on June 9, 1985, by Islamic Jihad. Joseph Cicippio, aged 60, was acting comptroller at the American University of Beirut when he was kidnapped on September 12, 1986, by the Revolutionary Justice Organisation. Alann Steen, aged 52, a communications professor at Beirut University College and former US marine, was kidnapped on January 24, 1987, with three other foreign academics. Released hostages said he escaped in his first year of captivity, but was recaptured.

Jesse Turner, aged 44, a visiting professor of mathematics and computer science, was kidnapped on January 24, 1987, with Mr Steen and the two other academics, who were released.

Heinrich Strubeig, aged 50, and Thomas Kempfner, aged 29, who worked for the ASME-Humanitas relief group in Palestinian refugee camps near Sidon, south Lebanon, were kidnapped on May 16, 1989, by unknown gunmen. Alberto Molinari, aged 71, an Italian businessman, was kidnapped on September 11, 1985, as he crossed Beirut's Green Line from the Christian sector to the Muslim zone.

JOSEPH CICIPPPIO

## Hard time for waiting families

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

EVERY hostage release leaves the relatives of those still captive torn between happiness for others and intense personal disappointment. But the circumstances of Edward Tracy's liberation yesterday were unusually tortuous for the family of Joseph Cicippio, the other American held by the Revolutionary Justice Organisation.

The kidnappers had announced on Saturday that one of the two men would be released. Early yesterday, Thomas Cicippio was woken by a call from the State Department saying there was a chance it would be his brother. Shortly after dawn the family's hopes were dashed by a call saying Mr Tracy had been freed.

Mr Cicippio, aged 60, the administrator of the American university in Beirut, was grabbed by gunmen at the door of his campus home on September 12, 1986 and driven off, beaten, in a car boot. Soon after his capture, his sister Rose died. His eldest son, Joseph, died of a heart attack last year, aged 35, and another sister, Helen, has cancer. It is unclear whether he knows of these tragedies.

In August 1989, shortly after the apparent hanging of another American hostage, Colonel William Higgins, Mr Cicippio's captors said that he, too, would be killed unless the Israelis released their Lebanese prisoners. Amid international pressure, the deadline was twice extended before eventually being frozen.

Thomas Cicippio remained positive yesterday when he faced the media outside his home in Norristown, Pennsylvania. In front of home-made signs recording how many days each American captive has been held, he said: "It's a disappointment, of course, but I am still very happy with the fact that an American hostage was released. Perhaps the next time it will be Joseph."

Similar sentiments were expressed yesterday by Peggy Say, sister of Terry Anderson, the longest-held hostage, whose liberation seemed imminent last week. Mrs Say said her brother's freedom was no more important than that of any

other hostage. "So long as the situation remains fluid and all the parties are expressing a willingness to co-operate in a wholesome venture, I am willing to wait it out," she said. "It's tough, but it's a whole lot tougher when the moment comes, as it has in the past, when you get a message that all hope is gone, that there will be no more releases."

The consolation is that released hostages bring news of the others. Mrs Say spent 45 minutes at the weekend talking by telephone to John McCarthy, who gave her messages from her brother and news on which, she said, "I can live for a long time." Mr Anderson, an Associated Press

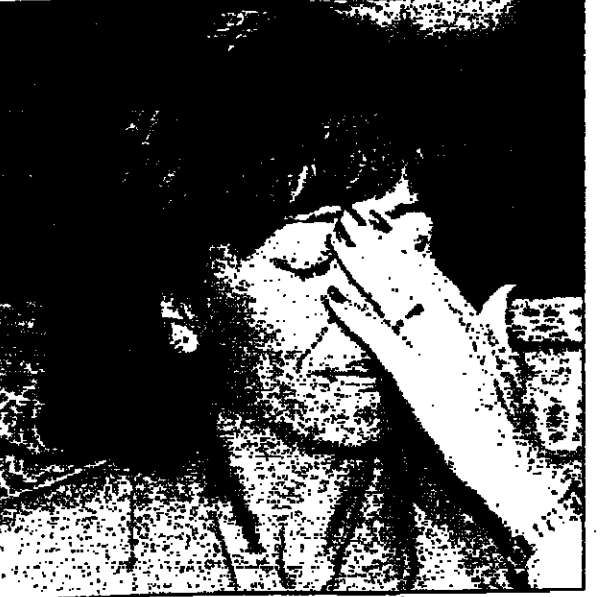
journalist who was seized on March 16, 1985, was in good health, mentally alert, humanely-treated and "tending to the tubby side ... frantically trying to get some weight off because (he is) optimistic at getting released", she said.

Mr Anderson, Mr McCarthy and Thomas Sutherland, a third American held by Islamic Jihad, had heard on a radio of the death of his father and brother in 1986. Mrs Say had dreaded breaking that news to him, "so this is a nightmare that I can put behind me", she said.

The hostages had also heard some of the interviews given over the years by Mrs Say, who has campaigned tirelessly for the hostages' release. She had asked Mr McCarthy whether the hostages felt this campaigning might have prolonged their captivity by raising their value as bargaining chips.

"John said to me that ... he had concluded that it probably had not. Even if it did, he said, 'You cannot know at the times we felt the world had abandoned us and we would hear something of you or something of Jill (Morrell), that that hope kept us alive and kept us from despair, and it meant the world to us. So if, in fact, it did add some time, it was time well spent'."

During the weekend Mrs Say taped a Voice of America interview intended for her brother, giving him news of his family, confident that he would hear it.



Wife's tears: Eileen Cicippio showing her disappointment that Joseph had not been freed

THE AVERAGE FAMILY  
THROWS OUT A TONNE OF  
RUBBISH EVERY YEAR.  
IF IT WASN'T FOR THIS  
GLASS BOTTLE  
IT WOULD BE EVEN MORE.

Everyone knows that milk is good for a growing family. But have you ever considered how much good the simple milk bottle is doing for your children's future?

Milk bottles? Yes, we're serious. Did you know, for instance, that a re-usable glass milk bottle can make more than 100 trips from dairy to doorstep and back again?

And although you've probably never tried cramming 100 throwaway packs into your kitchen bin, you can imagine what the impact on the rubbish dump would be if there were no more milk bottles tomorrow.

Of course, they also reduce the need to make new packaging in the first place.

Which in turn helps the environment by saving tonnes of raw materials and millions of gallons of oil every year.

And the cost of all this environmental friendliness?

Milk bottles are the cheapest way to deliver your daily milk.



short of drinking it straight from the cow. The place where they really come into their own though, is in the wash.

As every mum knows, glass bottles can be sterilised more easily than anything else.

Which is just as well, since every returned bottle has to be as clean as new. Even the bottle washing machine is shown no mercy. It's taken apart, cleaned and sterilised every single day.

But then hygiene is one of the most traditional reasons for liking glass. Another is that it's completely taste-free. And it's a fact that the way to enjoy milk at its freshest is to have it delivered.

So please keep on using re-usable glass.

And help us to prove that some things which make life convenient can be convenient for the environment too. Refreshing isn't it?

BRITISH GLASS

## Body is found near home of missing girl, 7

By JENNY KNIGHT

POLICE were hunting a killer last night after the body of a young girl was found in dense undergrowth a few hundred yards from the home of a missing seven-year-old.

Angela Flaherty was last seen playing on her bicycle near her home in Rawthorpe, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, on Saturday afternoon. A big search started when her parents, Martin and Shirley Flaherty, reported her missing on Saturday night. Forty officers, including mounted police, dog teams and a moorland rescue team joined the search, which resumed at first light.

Last night police were waiting for the dead child to be identified. A pink child's bicycle similar to Angela's was found a few yards away. Chief Supt Stuart Clough said: "We are treating the death as a murder enquiry. But we are not yet in a position to say how she died or to give any details of her injuries."

Last night police toured the council estate where Angela lived with her parents, and

sisters Sharon, aged 14, Amanda, aged 11, and Michelle, aged nine, warning parents not to let young children play outdoors alone. The child's body was found just before 2pm by a mounted policeman 20 minutes after another mounted officer found the bicycle concealed in thick undergrowth.

A search was under way last night in Swansea, where Rebecca McBride, aged six, vanished after she set off to visit a fair with her elder brother on Saturday morning. The girl failed to return home with her brother Simon, aged 15, and later her pet dog made his way home alone.

Volunteers joined police to search the area near her home in Penlan, Swansea. A police helicopter swept over the city.

The search was also concentrated on wasteland and industrial areas around Carmarthen Road where Rebecca was last seen at 4.15pm on Saturday. House to house enquiries were also being made.

## Times reporter's medals to be sold

John Shaw describes a great 19th century *Times* war correspondent who brought down a government

CAMPAIGN medals that were awarded to Sir William Howard Russell, the distinguished 19th century war correspondent of *The Times*, are expected to make up to £6,000 at auction in London next month.

His medals are among four groups of decorations awarded to various war correspondents of the period but Russell is the pre-eminent figure. As well as decorations for the Crimea 1854-56 and the Indian Mutiny 1857-8, there is an 1879 Zulu war medal. They will be sold at Glendinning's on September 16.

Russell, a volatile Irishman who joined *The Times* in 1841, was the first newspaper correspondent to accompany the British Army when he went to the Crimea. The generals ignored him but his charm won him friends and support among the British regiments.

He was at the Battle of Alma, saw the charge of the Light Brigade at Balaklava, and was among the desperate hand-to-hand fighting with bayonets in the fog and mist at Inkerman. He received bars for each of



The war medals of a campaigning reporter those battles, and a fourth for the siege of Sevastopol. Russell's devastating dispatches about bungling and mismanagement in the Crimea and shortages of food, medicine, and warm clothing roused public indignation at home. The Prince Consort called him "a miserable scribbler," but the outcry brought down Lord Aberdeen's government in January 1855.

*The History of the Times* said later that if Russell had not been sent to the front there would have been no fund to provide soldiers comforts, no reform of the bureaucratic system and no Florence Nightingale.



Russell in the Crimea: he exposed mismanagement

## Pindown victims may get £500 for each day

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

YOUNG victims of the "pindown" scandal have been offered up to £500 compensation for every day they were locked up and further compensation for psychological damage still to be assessed by independent specialists.

The settlement will cost insurers of Staffordshire county council, where the regime in which children were locked up in solitary confinement was devised, an estimated £2 million.

Children who were made to work for a string of companies set up by social workers including the architect of "pindown", Tony Latham, are also expected to receive further compensation ranging from £500 to £1,500. Details of the payments were disclosed after lawyers, led by Kevin Williams, a solicitor from Stoke-on-Trent, met child victims and their families. About 60 children are understood to be pressing for compensation but that number could rise to over 130.

For every week after the first week in pindown they could receive £2,100 or £300 a day. The compensation offers mean the children who were in pindown for the longest periods could receive over £50,000.

Under pindown, children as young as nine were locked away for weeks wearing just their nightclothes. Over a five year period, 132 children were kept in pindown. The longest total number of days in pindown for one young person was 129 days and the longest continuous period was 84 days.

A six month enquiry led by Allan Levy, QC, described the system as "unethical, unprofessional and unacceptable". Twelve employees of Staffordshire social services

department are on paid leave awaiting possible disciplinary action.

After yesterday's meeting, Nicola Simms, a victim who stands to receive £15,000, said: "No amount of money can compensate me for what we went through, but I'm pleased with the figures. It's nice to know it's there. In the beginning there was no question of money, we just wanted to get pindown stopped. This is a bonus."

Kevin Williams, who exposed pindown and led the campaign for a full enquiry into the scandal, said: "This might teach those in authority to listen when complaints are made in the first place. The cost of this scandal will ultimately have to be borne by the poll tax payer, which is utterly appalling." He said the offer would now be considered by lawyers in London.

## Jazz voice Clayton dies at 64

Peter Clayton, for more than 30 years the voice of jazz in Britain, died yesterday at the age of 64 after a long illness. Both as a broadcaster and writer he introduced an entire generation to the mysteries of jazz music through a friendly and accessible manner which was always unobtrusively at the service of his encyclopaedic knowledge.

Clayton's characteristically understated delivery was a feature of his Radio 3 programme *Jazz Record Requests*, and he became a fixture on Radio 2, where he presented *Sounds of Jazz*, featuring new releases, live sessions and extensive interviews, for more than 20 years.

Obituary, page 14

## Police seize £8m in drugs

Heroin worth up to £8 million has been seized in what police described yesterday as "by far the biggest police raid ever in Britain". Forty kilograms of heroin were recovered in a swoop on a warehouse at Wimbledon, southwest London.

No one was arrested in the raid and police believe that members of the drug gang involved may already be in custody awaiting trial for other offences.

## Pile-up in smoke

Dense smoke from a grass fire has been blamed for a pile-up of at least seven vehicles on the M62 near Whitley Bridge, North Yorkshire, yesterday, in which 15 people were taken to hospital. West Yorkshire ambulance service said crews were choking at the scene. "It was just like a fog across the motorway." The fire brigade said: "We think the fire was caused accidentally but there will be further enquiries."

## Street shooting

A man walking along a street in Rotherhithe, southeast London, yesterday afternoon was shot in a leg and an arm. The gunman, who had drawn up in a blue Vauxhall Astra, then ran off. Police have not ruled out a link with a gangland shooting in a south London pub last weekend in which two men were killed.

## Bad start by Short in world chess

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

NIGEL Short, Britain's top-ranked grandmaster, had a poor start yesterday in his world chess championship quarter final challenge losing to the Russian grandmaster Boris Gelfand.

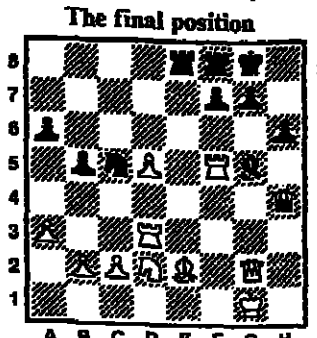
In the match in Brussels, Short began to appear confused and hesitant after seven moves. On the 12th move Short continued with an attack that had no real hope of success.

A confident Gelfand then reduced Short's position to rubble after 24 moves. Short then resigned.

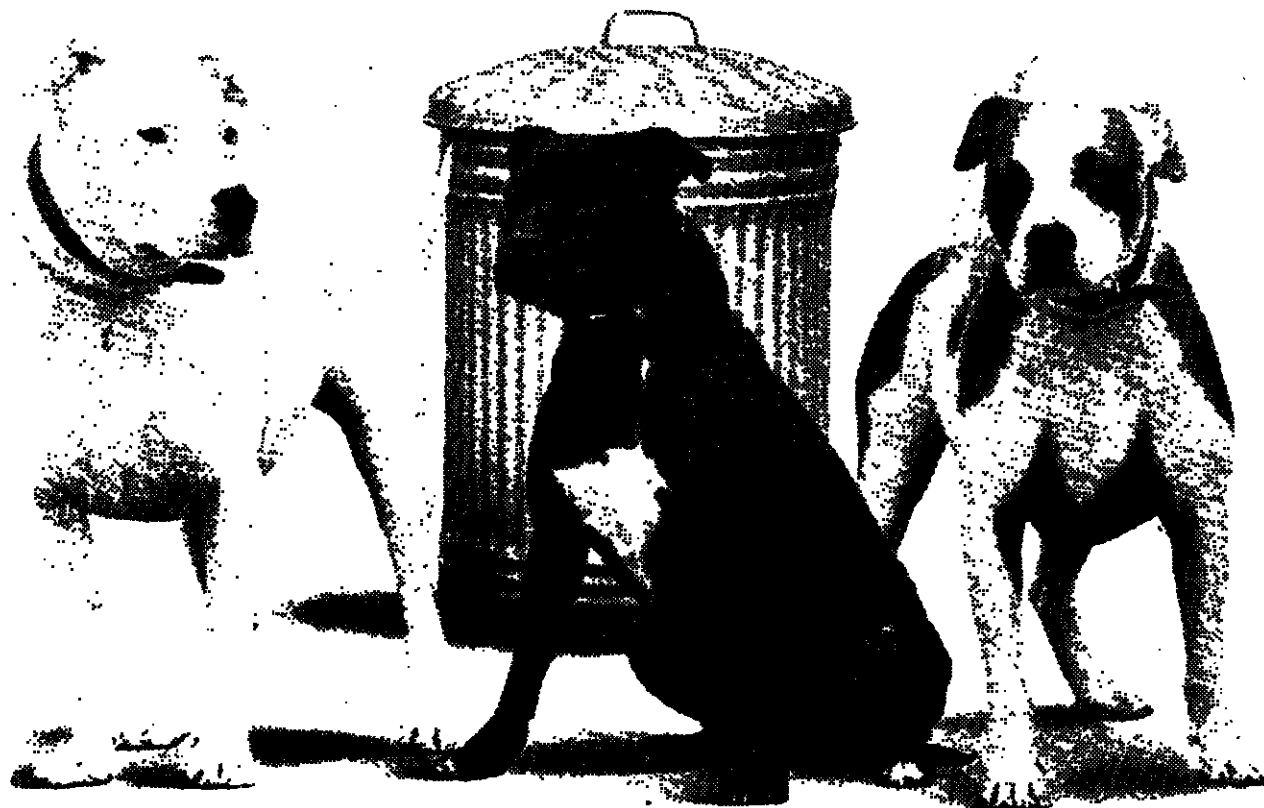
This is a poor start for Nigel Short in his quest to become the challenger to the world champion Gary Kasparov.

The other three games in the parallel quarter final matches all took a much sterner course. After 40 moves, the Dutch grandmaster Jan Timman was probing in an end game against the Swiss veteran Victor Korchnoi, but the chances of a draw looked good.

The young Indian hopeful Viswanathan Anand held an early advantage against the Soviet former world cham-



# Essential information for Pit Bull owners



There are new laws for the owners of Pit Bull Terriers. For example, you must now keep the dog muzzled and on a lead in public.

Failure to do this could mean a fine of £2,000, six months in jail and the destruction of your dog.

For the right to keep your dog, you must fill in a form at your local police station by 12th October 1991. H.M. GOVERNMENT



# Mystery virus suspected of causing fatal liver disease

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

A MYSTERIOUS virus may be responsible for a deadly form of liver disease that strikes without warning and can be fatal even after transplant surgery.

The disorder, known as fulminant liver failure, kills several hundred people a year in Britain, and is responsible for the deaths of thousands of worldwide. No cause has been found, and no common factor among its victims detected.

Severe forms of the condition are invariably lethal, and a liver transplant is the only hope. In some cases, however, the transplanted liver has also been attacked and destroyed within days of the operation.

Scientists at the Royal Free Hospital and Medical School, in Hampstead, northwest London, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine now suspect that a hitherto unknown hepatitis virus could be responsible, and are leading the world in attempts to identify it.

"There have been many big advances in research into liver disease in recent years, but we have been unable to make any progress at all on this devastating condition," Liz Fagan, senior lecturer in medicine and molecular biology at the Royal Free, said yesterday.

"It strikes at people of all ages from babies, children and teenagers to middle-aged adults, and it appears with astonishing speed. We have seen young, healthy adults who within a few days are suffering massive liver destruction, the collapse of other vital organs, and who become urgent cases for transplantation."

In a project funded by the British Digestive Foundation and the Wellcome Trust, Dr Fagan and Tim Harrison, a fellow molecular biologist, are studying microscopic particles,

which could be viral remnants, detected in the livers of a group of patients killed by the illness.

Although much work still needs to be done, the chief suspect in the search could be one of a family known as toga viruses, so called because each is shrouded in a cloak-like membrane. Evidence to support that theory has emerged from collaborative studies at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Viruses in the toga group cause tropical diseases such as yellow fever and are transmitted by mosquitoes. Almost without exception, however, British sufferers of the liver disease have never been to the tropics. Some have never been abroad. Few have had blood transfusions, another way in which viral hepatitis can be spread.

Intravenous drug abuse has been discounted, and so too has sexual transmission, because some patients have been infants or young children.

"The whole thing is very, very strange. I have never seen anything quite like it," Arie Zuckerman, dean of the Royal Free Medical School and expert on hepatitis, said. "A number of hepatitis viruses are already identified, and there are strong suspicions that this is another one, waiting to be discovered."

Dr Fagan and Dr Harrison are using sophisticated techniques to analyse genetic material that might belong to the virus. They hope to show that a new virus is indeed involved in the disease. If they can, their next aim will be to develop a blood test that can be used to identify it in patients with symptoms of the disorder. Dr Fagan said: "If this is a new virus, we really need to know where it comes from, how it is spread, and how common it is."



Nose dive: Alan Warren, winner yesterday of the £1,000 first prize in the Heath Robinson section of the International Birdman Rally at

Bognor Regis, West Sussex, takes the plunge, off Bognor pier, in his three-quarter scale model of a Mk3 Battle of Britain Spitfire. Mr War-

ren, a New Zealander on a working holiday, took 1,000 hours to build the model. Inmates from Ford Open Prison in West Sussex won second

prize with their biplane "Easy Bird". In the serious section, Antonio Madonia, aged 33, from Germany, won first prize, flying 32 metres.

## Aids boosts condom sales

CONCERN about Aids is causing more people to use condoms than the contraceptive pill, according to the results of a survey published today (Thomson Prentice writes).

Last year, 144 million condoms were sold, 30 million more than ten years ago. Sales have increased by almost a third since 1986, when government Aids education campaigns began.

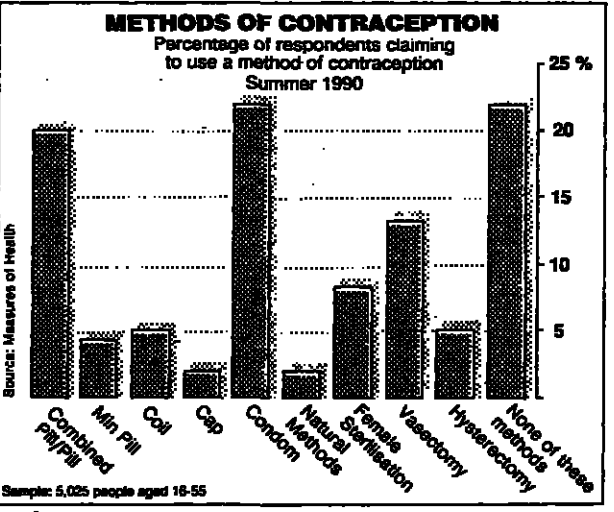
Condoms are now used by 22 per cent of couples, compared with 20 per cent who use the combined progestogen-oestrogen pill. Some couples are using both methods.

The survey of 5,025 men and women aged 16 to 55 was carried out by independent market researchers for LRC Products, manufacturers of Durex condoms. The firm attributes the rise in sales to increased awareness of Aids and HIV, concern among women about possible side-effects of oral contraceptives, and wider

availability of condoms.

What the company calls the "snigger factor" also seems to have been overcome. Of the 16-20 year-old men in the survey, 76 per cent said they had no embarrassment about buying condoms. Chemists

still account for half of all sales, but grocery stores and supermarkets, with an 11 per cent share, are selling many more than before. The survey suggests that more men than women buy condoms in a supermarket.



## Minister attacks jail management

By QUENTIN COWDRY AND ROBIN OAKLEY

THE administration of the prison service was openly criticised by the government yesterday as over-centralised, over-staffed and lacking in flair. Angela Rumbold, the prisons minister, said that standards of management needed to be raised urgently.

As Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, made clear in Sunday newspaper interviews that he intended to resist continuing pressure for him to resign over escape of two IRA suspects from Brixton jail, ministers indicated that they had lost patience with prison managers as well as warders.

Mrs Rumbold said that the service in England and Wales was top-heavy and that, although some governors and administrators were highly talented and innovative, too many lacked "imagination

and foresight". The management structure, only reshaped last autumn, needed changing again.

The minister, a member of the Thatcherite No Turning Back Group of Tory MPs, also wants the private sector allowed to design more prisons and to provide catering and training for inmates.

Labour accused ministers of talking about the prison privatisation to cover their responsibility for the escape. Last week, Mr Baker said a prominent businessman was to be commissioned to study management of the prison service. Ministers are confident that their misgivings will be endorsed by the review.

A Home Office enquiry into possible disciplinary offences linked to the Brixton breakout begins today.

## Labour soothes fears in clubland

By ROBIN OAKLEY  
POLITICAL EDITOR

REPORTS that the Labour party was prepared to risk shivers of outrage behind the rustling newspapers of London's clubland and revolution amid the brown ale and mushy peas circuit of northern working men's clubs turn out to be premature.

Senior party sources confirmed yesterday that there was a "consultation document" circulating which could conceivably lead one day to a ban on all-male clubs and that such a document had been approved by the party's national executive. But a spokesman insisted there was "no question whatsoever" of such a policy proposal finishing up in Labour's manifesto for the next election. No date has yet been settled for publication of the consultation paper. The suggestion has come from the women's committee of Labour's national executive.

The document calls for a new sex equality act to make unlawful "any discrimination on the grounds of gender, marital and family status and sexuality". But it was stressed yesterday that the document was an "open-minded and discursive" working paper calling for nothing more than a wider look at the areas where women's equality needed to be considered.

If there is to be progress in this direction under a Labour government it seems we might too, see the foundation of the People's Institute and the Townspersons' Guild. It was acknowledged that any legislative changes made would have to work in both directions. Thus if a ban on male-only clubs were promulgated it would have to be accompanied by rules granting male admission to ladies' sewing circles, jam-making classes and aerobics sessions.

Teresa Gorman, Conservative MP for Billericay said last night that any plan to ban male-only clubs would be ridiculous.

Leading article, page 13



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# Rich nations urged to foot bill for cleaning up Earth

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT officials from more than 100 countries, including Britain, will meet in Geneva today for their first sight of the most ambitious plan ever seriously drawn up for saving the world from environmental ruin.

When they look at the small print, many of them will get a

shock. Agenda 21, the proposed action plan for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro next June — the "Earth Summit" — will propose that they commit themselves, not only to hundreds of measures to tackle pollution in all its

forms, preserve natural resources, and prevent the extinction of endangered species, but also to changing fundamentally the ways their economies are ordered, and to organising the greatest transfer of money ever seen between the rich nations of the north and the developing countries of the south.

How much of that will eventually be agreed is open to doubt, but its necessity is not at all doubted by the man behind it, Maurice Strong, the Canadian businessman turned environmentalist who is the secretary-general of the Rio conference. "The habitability of the earth is being seriously undermined," he said in an interview with *The Times*. "It is a question of fundamental security for us all. Agenda 21 is ambitious, yes, and some people are calling it unrealistic. But we must create a new realism."

Mr Strong, who is 62, believes that as the industrialised world produced the problems and the risks such as global warming in the first place, it should pay to alleviate the environmental dangers of the Third World catching up, through the free transfer of new technology, such as energy-efficient coal-burning plants. The sums involved are vast. "Initially they would have to be in the hundred billion dollars a year category."

## Big fines proposed for car pollution

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

CAR manufacturers face the prospect of multi-million pound fines if their models cannot meet tough anti-pollution regulations drawn up by the government for the European Community.

British officials are spearheading EC moves to introduce new laws that will force car makers to design more fuel-efficient models which pump out lower emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). Motor vehicles in Britain account for about 18 per cent of all emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>, the gas blamed for creating the so-called "greenhouse effect" which adds to global warming.

British officials believe that the only way to curb emissions quickly is by legislation that sets strict targets for all new cars on sale in Europe. Car makers unable to meet targets

will have to pay fines which could cost them millions of pounds annually.

The issue of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions has become one of the key environment issues in the EC. Although car makers face stringent regulations on other exhaust gases from their cars from 1993, there are no plans to curb CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Ironically, the move towards fitting catalytic converters to meet the 1993 regulations has probably increased CO<sub>2</sub> pollution because "cats" make petrol engines slightly less fuel efficient. British officials say that it is vital that car makers should meet fuel economy targets if the EC is to make headway in its ambitions to drastically reduce CO<sub>2</sub> output. The proposals are being considered by an EC committee.

Leading article, page 13



Sea-changes: a group of Nepalese children who have just arrived at the Pestalozzi children's village at Sedlescombe, East Sussex, where bright children from poor families worldwide live while being educated at local schools

## Jewish couple get police protection

An Orthodox Jewish couple who told police that a member of their community had sexually abused their daughter have been moved to a "safe house" after receiving death threats from neighbours (Quentin Cowdry writes).

Police believe that Jewish extremists are determined to defy pleas by rabbis for the married couple to be allowed to return to their home in Stamford Hill, north London. They are receiving round-the-clock police protection.

The couple, who cannot be named for legal reasons, went into hiding last month after a court found Eli Cohen, aged 18, from Stamford Hill, guilty of indecently assaulting their daughter, aged five. Cohen, who admitted twice sexually assaulting the girl, was sentenced to six months' youth custody, but the Court of Appeal later reduced this to a year's probation.

Soon after he was sentenced, more than 100 Jews wielding bricks, iron bars and CS cannisters surrounded the family's home. The couple has also received numerous malicious, anonymous letters, some containing death threats.

Many Hasidic Jews have been angered by the couple's decision to tell police and social workers about how their former baby-sitter abused their daughter. For a Jew to inform on a Jew is regarded as a "great" wrong within the Orthodox community.

## Kidnap charges

A man will appear before Colchester magistrates today and another tomorrow charged with conspiring to kidnap James Andrews, a Tesco store manager, and his family at their home in Essex. A third man is still being questioned. Eight people are helping police with enquiries.

## Bound over

A prisoner serving life at Full Sutton jail, Humberside, who tried to escape while attending an appointment at York district hospital, was immobilised by a female ambulance officer who sat on him and used bandages to tie him up.

## Long haul

Ronnie McCutcheon, aged 35, an electrician of Wigtown, Dumfries & Galloway, sets off on his Yamaha XT 600 Terrene motorbike today on a 27-month round-the-world trip. He hopes to get jobs along the way, is taking two spare tyres, and is giving Yugoslavia a miss.

## Jail death

Colin Gibson, aged 35, from Blackburn, who was sentenced to life in June for murder, was found dead in the hospital wing of Preston prison, Lancashire, yesterday, in an apparent suicide, the Home Office said.

## Bond winners

Winners in the weekly National Savings Premium Bond prize draw: £100,000, bond number 14WB 232523, Co London, value of holding £9,990; £50,000, 16PL 478610, West Yorkshire, holding £1,587; £25,000, 15DW 944950, Barnet, north London, holding £10,000.

## Truancy loophole worries teachers

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

LOOPHOLES in new truancy regulations may prevent parents building up a true picture of schools from the information they will receive under the citizen's charter, a teacher's union says today.

The Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association says that the regulations, to be introduced next month, may lead schools to submit unintentionally misleading returns. League tables of truancy levels could be disrupted as a result.

Confusion is likely, according to the association, over a new distinction between authorised and unauthorised absences. The definition of a legitimate reason for keeping a child away from school is said to be unclear.

Permission for more than two weeks' holiday absence during term time is also left at the school's discretion. The association foresees inconsistencies with ethnic minority groups, which tend to spend long periods in their "home" country. In practice, the 135,000-member association claims, that schools will have to make their own rules. "Unintentional but over-generous use of discretion

could lead to artificially low truancy figures being published in some annual reports and leading to unfair and misleading comparisons."

The new regulations form part of a government crackdown on truancy. A study funded jointly by the education and employment departments found that 6 per cent of pupils aged 15 were regular truants, 10 per cent in inner city schools.

Fines for parents who fail to ensure that their children attend school are to rise from a maximum of £400 to £1,000. State school prospectuses will have to include truancy rates. Four unions representing university staff have appealed to London MPs to intervene over the state of the capital's campuses. The unions, which represent cleaners and administrators as well as academics, say that buildings are falling apart through lack of maintenance and that health and safety regulations are not being implemented. Staff are having to pay for supplies themselves, using high street stores because bulk buying has been abolished.

Education, pages 24-25

## I was so impressed I bought the house



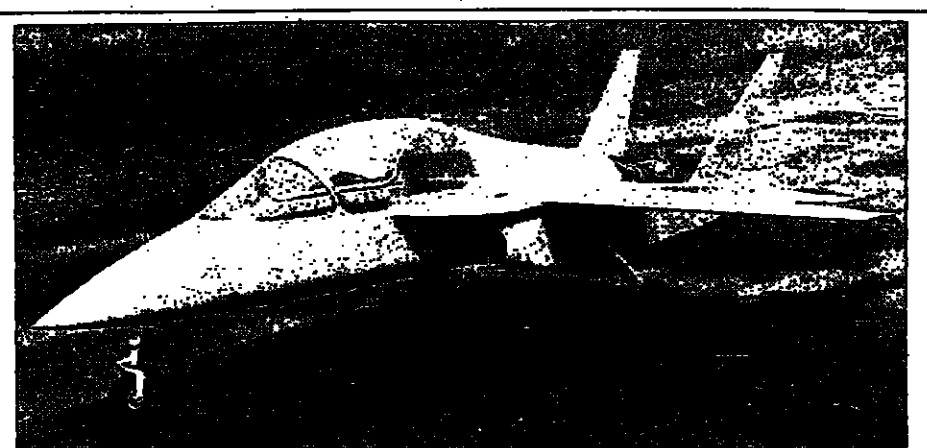
After two years of searching, John Casey finally found the house of his dreams. Then he discovered Abbey National's £100,000 mortgage, and found he could afford it too.

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Jet from a box: outside and, below, inside the "build-it-yourself" supersonic aircraft

## DIY supersonic jet for sale

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

A SUPERSONIC "build-it-yourself" jet aircraft capable of being flown by anyone holding a private pilot's licence, will be on sale in Britain by the end of the year.

The jet, which is 28ft 10in long, comes in a kit and is said to be capable of being put together by a competent amateur, will sell for under £150,000 including a General Electric engine capable of Mach 1.4, or 920mph.

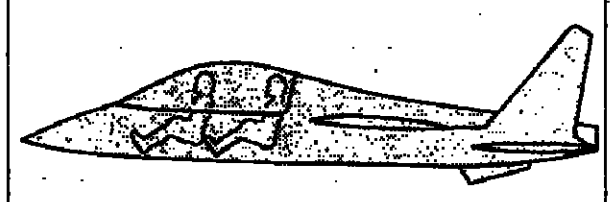
Design work on the two-seater jet, the BD-10, has been going on in the United States for more than seven years, and formal approval from US aviation authorities for full-scale construction is to be given in October. Already, 52 potential buyers have shown interest after details began emerging at local airshows. The Hobbyday Inn Aerobatic team has put a deposit on six of the jets. Jim Bede, president of the

Bede Aircraft Corporation, in Missouri, said yesterday: "The BD-10 will perform its flight test programme in October and should be ready for certification and sale around the world by the end of the year. For the first time, it will give general aviation pilots the chance to fly faster than sound if they wish and enable them to combine high-speed personal trips with personal pleasure flying."

The Civil Aviation Authority confirmed that, because the jet weighs under 12,000lb, no special pilot's

licence is needed, although if flying in commercial airways, its pilots would need an instrument rating. The CAA will, however, examine the BD-10's structure "rigorously" for safety before giving a permit to fly. Normally, construction of home-built aircraft is monitored by the Popular Flying Association. Faster-than-sound flight over land is banned, and pilots would have to keep below Mach 1 until over sea.

The basic structure will cost around £120,000 plus upwards of £24,000 for a second-hand CJ-610 engine.



مركز من الأصل



Much-maligned and misunderstood, the guardians of the grouse moors have their say

## Gamekeepers weary of flak on Glorious Twelfth

By PETER DAVENPORT

IN THE current edition of *The Moorland Echo* are messages that have a special meaning today for its limited but specialised readership.

"All the very best for the season, may your worms shrivel and die," writes the editor while another contributor signs off: "I wish you all a successful shooting season along with a distinct lack of problems of any description and that includes the two-legged ones."

Today is the "Glorious Twelfth", the opening of the grouse season, and as the shooting parties assemble around the butts on the moors it is a safe assumption that the *Echo* will be tucked inside the jacket pockets of many of the men whose professional abilities will be judged by how many birds are driven across the gun sights.

The quarterly, 14-page, home-produced magazine is the journal of the Moorland Gamekeepers' Association whose 200 members account for 93 per cent of the gamekeepers working on the grouse moors of England and Wales. The organisation was formed five years ago because the gamekeepers wanted a voice in the increasing debate over the future of the countryside. They believed their job was little understood by the public, that they were the butt of allegations about the killing of birds of prey and that the link between the cultivation and shooting of grouse and the preservation of endangered heather moorland, in which the keepers play an important role, was not appreciated.

The comments in the opening pages of the journal refer to two of the issues that have provided the main problems for keepers.

Two years ago the grouse populations on many estates

were severely affected by an outbreak of strongylosis, a parasitic worm infestation picked up from the heather on which the birds feed and from which some have still not fully recovered. Hence the greeting from editor Alan Edwards, head gamekeeper on Sir Anthony Milbank's 6,500-acre estate - including 4,000 acres of grouse moor - which stretches across North Yorkshire and Durham.

Because the estate has not had a complete re-stocking of birds, shooting will not start there until next month and will be limited to four days instead of the normal ten to 12 days before the end of the season in December. Mr Edwards, aged 33, a gamekeeper for 17 years, will today be helping colleagues on a neighbouring estate.

The second problem is animal rights activists who are again threatening to disrupt the opening of the season by interfering with shoots. Mr Edwards says that gamekeepers are wary of the increasing militancy of the more extreme of the activists.

He takes some comfort from an entry he recently uncovered in the game records kept on the estate. A note by a predecessor on August 12, 1830, expressed fears that "antis" would disrupt the day. "It gave me some reassurance that it is not a new phenomenon," Mr Edwards said.

"There is still a lot of misunderstanding around about the whole thing. Some people think that we actually rear the grouse in cages and just release them on the day for the guns. They are, of course, a wild bird and what we gamekeepers do is to help create the habitat and environment which encourages them to breed naturally."

Mr Edwards said people



Keeping his hand in: Alan Edwards in the not-so-glorious driving rain repairing the butts on Sir Anthony Milbank's estate in readiness for the guns.

failed to understand that the upkeep of the heather moorland was very expensive and that without the grouse and the shooting they would simply not exist.

"Heather moorland is the natural habitat of the grouse but without the income from shooting it would not be viable. Then the landscape would not remain as it is but be ploughed under or overgrazed with sheep," he said.

"In Scotland they would plant rows of conifers. Even the people who don't like shooting would not like to see the disappearance of the heather moorland in which they love to walk and without the grouse season that would be the result."

Those out behind the butts today can expect to pay between £70 and £90 a brace for the 1. They shoot but even in the recession there will be no shortage of those willing to pay. The days when the owner of a moor would simply invite friends over for the shoot are long gone. Nowadays the season is big business, swelled by corporate hospitality.

## Prospects patchy for Scottish guns

SCOTLAND'S grouse, of which there are estimated to be more than 1.5 million, today face the start of the annual barrage of gunfire that could decimate their ranks (Kerry Gill writes). The dawn of the "Glorious Twelfth", although expected to be a disaster on some moors where owners have been forced to cancel shoots, may prove more successful for sportsmen than predicted only a few weeks ago.

John Ormiston, an agent for 50

Scottish sporting estates, yesterday disputed claims that this season could be one of the worst of recent years. He said that it would depend on which area of the country people chose to shoot. "There are hardly any birds in the southwest, and Morayshire is not encouraging either, but the west end of the Spey valley near Newtonmore, Sutherland and the Perth to Comrie area should provide good sport," he said. "There is one estate in Perthshire that told me they have to

kill 1,000 brace just to keep the numbers down." This year would probably turn out to be average for the grouse.

The 1989 season proved particularly deadly for the birds as many guns were driven into Scotland because disease hit some Yorkshire moors. Although shoots may be affected by the recession, Mr Ormiston said, those that are good should benefit from attracting guns unable to use those cancelled. Eight-gun parties are charged up to £4,000 a day.

## Ministers urged to save bird haven

By KERRY GILL

CONSERVATIONISTS will this week put extra pressure on the government to help to fund the purchase for the nation of Mar Lodge and its 77,000-acre estate on Royal Deeside.

The future of the estate, that once offered the finest stalking in Scotland and still supports many species of rare birds, has been in question since John Kluge, the American billionaire who owns Mar Lodge, placed it on the market earlier this year. Although Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, has been opposed to buying the estate for the nation, it is thought that the government may be about to reconsider its position because of pressure from environmental groups.

Not least among those who are worried about Mar Lodge's future is the Prince of Wales as the estate is virtually next door to Balmoral Castle. The lodge was commissioned by Queen Victoria for one of her grandchildren. It was hoped that the Crown estate commissioners would buy it, but their £10 million bid was rejected in June by Mr Kluge, who had bought the estate for his wife Patricia.

A meeting has been called for tomorrow at the Scottish Office with the World Wide Fund for Nature and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. The WWF has offered to try to raise part of the purchase price if the government promised to provide the balance. Mr Kluge, it is said, wants £13 million.

## Housing market 'unlikely to revive before spring'

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE housing market will not be ripe for recovery until next spring at the earliest, according to a survey by the estate agent Savills.

Research based on a combination of factors, in-

cluding disposable household income, mortgage interest rates and the multiple of income spent on housing has produced an "affordability" measure showing that even with the mortgage rate re-

ductions since last October there is some way to go before people will find property sufficiently attractive to begin buying and selling.

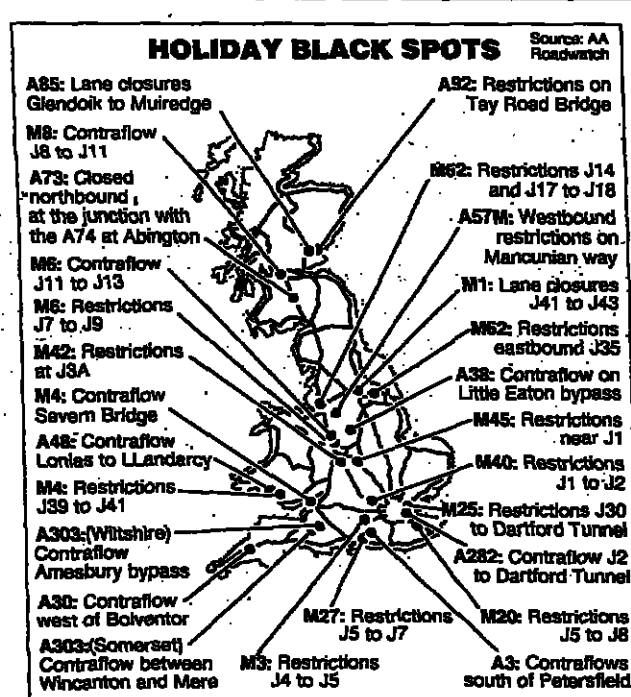
A further survey, by Prospektus, a research and marketing company, suggests that a change in attitudes may mean downward pressure on house prices for much of the 1990s.

Savills predicts that, given static house prices, interest rates falling to 10 per cent, real disposable household incomes rising by 8.7 per cent this year and 6.5 per cent the next, it will be early next year before affordability is again at 1987 levels when the market began its ascent to the peak of 1988.

The plight of the house-building industry in these circumstances is charted in a report by Richard Roberts, Barclays Bank's construction economist. He said that sales of new houses had been disappointing.

The survey by Prospektus says that shifts in consumer priorities imply that downward pressure on prices is likely to be sustained. The authors suggest that a smaller proportion of income will be devoted to housing and that there may be a reaction against investment in homes. The study forecasts a return on investment of about 3 per cent a year.

*Wealth and High New Worth Individuals* (Prospektus, 6 Manor Gardens, Larkhall Rise, London SW4 6JZ; £3,450)



Motorists heading for Somerset, Devon and Cornwall face longer delays this week with the introduction of a new contraflow on the A30 west of Bournemouth, Cornwall. There will also be delays on the M6 caused by roadworks between junctions 7 and 9 and junctions 11 and 13. The A303 has contraflows at Amesbury, Wiltshire, and between Wincanton, Somerset, and Mere, Wiltshire. However, more than a dozen roadwork sites have been cleared up over the weekend.

## Lumbered with two left feet

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A SMALL claims court may soon be asked to consider the case of the two left feet which is making a customer feel sore about the practices of a sports store.

The shop, which accidentally sold two left-footed baseball-style boots to Steven Wiseman, a student aged 21, is refusing to give back his money because he had worn the boots for some days before he realised the mistake.

Mr Wiseman bought the boots from the Liverpool branch of Foothold, and did not notice anything wrong

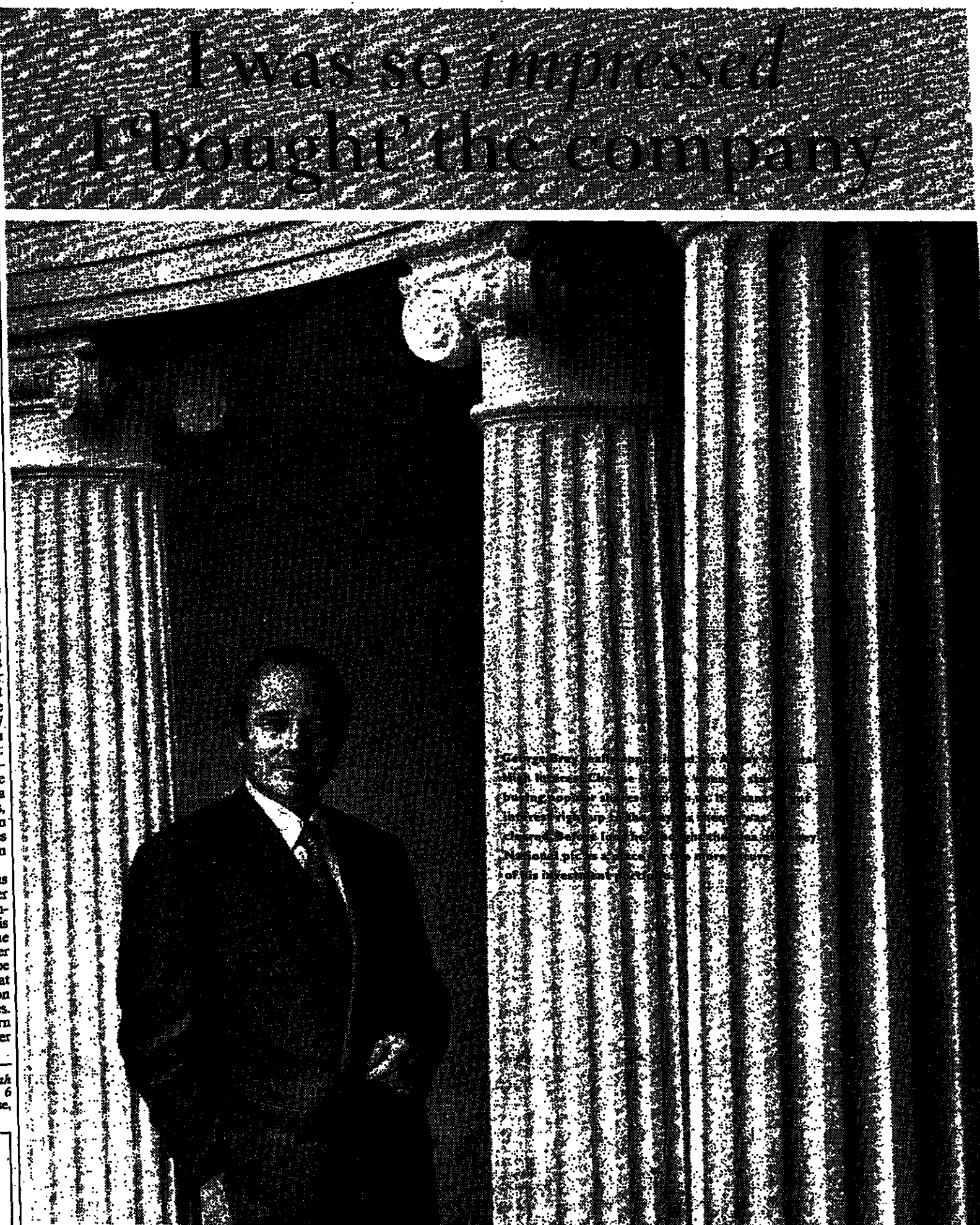
when he tried them on. "I admitted that I wore the boots for a couple of days," Mr Wiseman, of Allerton, Liverpool, said. "I did not notice at first that they were for the same feet. A friend pointed it out after I said they were uncomfortable."

Mr Wiseman, who is studying business information technology at Lancashire polytechnic, said he bought the shoes on the day he left for a holiday in Israel and was in too much of a rush to notice the error.

A spokesman for the store said: "It is not our policy to

exchange or refund if they have been used. The customer tried the shoes on in the shop when they were bought, and you should know if you are wearing two left feet."

Mr Wiseman, who is considering going to the small claims court to try to retrieve his money, said he had already received a telephone call from a person claiming to have the shoes' mates. Mr Wiseman said: "He has the two right feet. Apparently he could not tell the difference at first, either."



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## Pope pleads for aid and humane treatment of refugees

## Police hurt in quayside clashes with Albanians

By PAUL BOMPARD IN ROME AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ITALIAN police and troops firing tear-gas fought Albanian refugees throwing sticks and stones in Bari harbour yesterday. The clash was by far the worst between police and refugees since an estimated 15,000 Albanians arrived at the southern Italian port on a freighter last week.

The Albanians, who have had little to eat or drink since fleeing from their homeland, face forced repatriation. The riot on the quayside yesterday began when police started to distribute breakfast.

As reinforcements arrived at the docks, the police and soldiers appeared to have control of about 2,000 refugees who have been cooped up in squalid conditions since Thursday. But the Albanians attacked again, whistling and jeering. In the ensuing running battles a dozen policemen were injured and taken to hospital in ambulances.

A fireboat sailed into the dock and pumped water at the refugees, who had used oil drums and mattresses to build waist-high barricades. Tear-gas fired by police had little effect because a breeze blew it back towards them across the 100-yard gap between the two sides.

On the wharf and in Bari stadium, virtually controlled by the refugees, the Albanians chanted: "Back to Albania, no" in stilted Italian. There were frequent scuffles. Food had to be dropped into the stadium by helicopter because the police could not go in without getting into fights with the refugees.

Self-appointed Albanian stewards wearing white headbands tried to calm their compatriots. Abim Braneta,

aged 20, a mechanic from Tirana, said: "These people's nerves are on edge. I just want to work here. They are hungry, very hungry. The Italian government is not treating us well. We want to know what they're going to do with us."

The rusty freighter that brought the Albanians to Italy on Thursday forced its way past a naval blockade and into Bari harbour. The Italian government, fearing a repeat of an influx last March when 34,000 Albanians landed on the Adriatic coast in old boats and makeshift rafts, ordered their immediate repatriation.

About half the Albanians who crossed the Adriatic to southern Italy had by yesterday been forcibly sent back to Albania under heavy police escort, some from Bari and others from Brindisi, further south. Most of them, exhausted by four days of exposure and near starvation, offered little resistance as they were herded on to civilian and military aircraft and requisitioned passenger ferries. The Italian authorities continued to operate an air and sea shuttle of refugees back to Albania.

The government said yesterday that Gianni De Michelis, the foreign minister, would fly to Tirana today for talks with the Albanian authorities. But Margherita Boniver, the immigration minister, complained of the difficulty of dealing with "a nation that is falling to pieces".

Claudio Martelli, the deputy prime minister, said: "We absolutely will not tolerate a new clandestine immigration from Albania after that of recent months."



Hosepipe defiance: a young Albanian holding a rubber hose confronts Italian police outside a football stadium in Bari (Reuter reports). He appealed for "urgent human and Christian assistance" for the Albanians. "Nobody can remain indifferent before the dramatic scenes of men, women and entire families," he said.

remain indifferent to the plight of the thousands of refugees living in squalor in Bari (Reuter reports). He appealed for "urgent human and Christian assistance" for the Albanians. "Nobody can remain indifferent before the dramatic scenes of men, women and entire families," he said.

## Cradle of the revolution cries for help

FROM MARY DEBEVSKY IN Leningrad

LENINGRAD, a city starting to thrive under the new political and economic freedoms, has alarmed Soviet leaders and its own population with an urgent cry for help. Unless deliveries of food and consumer goods can be guaranteed through the winter at no less than last year's levels, council leaders say, there is a serious risk of social unrest.

Their appeal, addressed to the Soviet and Russian presidents, demands immediate action to ensure that suppliers from other parts of the Soviet Union meet their contractual obligations. The leaders say many areas of the Russian Federation, Belorussia and the Ukraine, as well as Lithuania and Kazakhstan, are failing to provide agreed deliveries. Grain, milk, meat and petrol are in short supply.

Neither the deputy mayor, Vyacheslav Shcherbakov, a former nuclear submarine commander, nor the council chairman, the professional economist Aleksandr Belyayev, is easily scared. Nor is the newly elected Leningrad mayor and popular hero, Anatoli Sobchak. Yet he has insisted on deploying joint police and army patrols in the city.

Officially, his decision is explained by outbreaks of vandalism, including the virtual destruction of local trains after fare increases. Unofficially, the move is seen as "preventive", to nip any trouble in the bud. "Preventive" is also how city leaders describe their appeal to the two presidents. Mr Shcherbakov concedes that the present situation in the shops and on the streets has been successfully "stabilised".

An international conference, sponsored by the United Nations, is to be held next month on ways of promoting the city as a free enterprise zone, and privatisation of most service outlets is more advanced than anywhere in the Soviet Union.

The state distribution centres, where fresh produce used to be either diverted to the highest bidder or left to rot,



are well on the way to extinction. On Friday, the city council was to have approved a privatisation dossier, listing all the city's small shops and service outlets district by district, together with the agreed form of privatisation — buy-out, co-operative or on long-term lease — agreed with the present employees.

Until now, Leningrad has enjoyed privileged status. As the Soviet Union's second city and "cradle" of the October revolution, its access to the state distribution network has been favoured. The leaders of both Leningrad and Moscow enjoyed a status akin to that of republic leaders.

Once the Russian Federation signs the union treaty on August 20, Leningrad will cease to be special. It will be just another city subject to the Russian Federation. Russia's budget will have to accommodate Leningrad, and in the view of Mr Belyayev, that will not suffice to keep the city in the style, albeit modest, to which it is accustomed.

The longer-term reason for concern arises from the first half-year's figures on prices, incomes and population. These show an increase in average income of between 30 and 40 per cent, a fall in industrial production and general shortages which will "lead to further reduction in the purchasing capacity of the rouble and bring the monetary system into disarray". There can scarcely be any city in the Soviet Union that should not harbour similar concern, but Leningrad has recognised the danger first.

Anatoli Kaletsky, page 12  
Leading article, page 13

## Fragile ceasefire holds in Croatia

Bijinski Blat — Behind the sandbags here yesterday morning, the Croatian ceasefire seemed to be holding (Tim Judah writes). But along the front line, south of Zagreb and in eastern Slavonia the ceasefire looks more like a truce than the end of fighting.

Five prisoners were exchanged in Vinkovci on Saturday and a further exchange was said to be imminent. An old man was killed in a mortar attack on the village of Hrastovica eight miles to the west and 12 miles to the south. A Croatian television cameraman was killed in an attack on the town of Kostajnica. According to the Croatian authorities the Yugoslav army refused to allow a helicopter to rescue the cameraman.

In Sarajevo, bystanders applauded as several hundred cars daubed with doves and peace slogans left the city for Osijek with their occupants, from Muslim, Serb and Croat national groups, singing the Serbo-Croat version of "Give Peace a Chance".

## Yeltsin scheme

Moscow — Boris Yeltsin, the Russian Federation president, wants to restructure his administration at the top and appoint regional presidential representatives. The new structure will comprise four separate bodies: a state council, a council of ministers, a council of the federation, and a security council.

## Oil-rig deaths

Stranger — Three Norwegian maintenance workers died when their helicopter crashed on an oil rig in the Ekofisk field in the North Sea. Rescuers said the rotor blade hit a chimney on the rig, which was not in service. (AFP)

## Call to desert

Vilnius — Vytautas Landsbergis, the Lithuanian president, has appealed to the thousands of conscripts from the Baltic republic still serving in the Soviet army to desert and "return to peaceful work".

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# Neo-fascists plan martyrs' funeral for Afrikaner dead

FROM RAY KENNEDY  
IN JOHANNESBURG

MEMBERS of the neo-fascist Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB) who were killed in battles with police in the western Transvaal town of Ventersdorp are to be given a "heroes' funeral". Two AWB members died during the clashes on Friday night and a third, aged 36, died of his wounds in hospital yesterday.

The three are being hailed as the first martyrs of the "Boer uprising" against President de Klerk. Their funeral could provoke further confrontations between the police and extreme right-wing whites.

Andries Treurnicht, leader of the Conservative party, the white parliamentary opposition, declared at Vryheid, Natal, another right-wing stronghold, that "volk-on-volk" (meaning Afrikaner against Afrikaner) violence would continue while Mr de Klerk betrayed whites. "We are against violence, but many people are now saying they will never be forced into a confrontation without being able to shoot back," he said.



Treurnicht: accuses De Klerk of betraying whites

"We cannot condemn that our people will have to shoot back. We say to F.W. [Mr de Klerk]: 'You came to Ventersdorp to cause confrontation. You needed 2,000 troops to guard you. You did not allow dissatisfied people to attend your meeting and your police force shot at our people'."

One black person died in the violence. All but nine of the 58 people who were injured, 36 white civilians, seven policemen and 15

blacks, had by yesterday been discharged from hospital.

Some ambulance crews wearing AWB armbands had refused to attend to injured blacks, and off-duty black nurses who returned to the Ventersdorp hospital to treat the wounded had obscenities shouted at them by right-wingers whose behaviour was described by a hospital source as "disgusting".

"The AWB are filthy. If people cannot see what sort they are, then they must be blind," the source added. Bob Hardy, the town's mayor, said most of the right-wing whites had been brought in on buses.

Police have admitted that they issued a shoot-to-kill order at the height of the battle. Major Ray Herrald, a police spokesman, said: "We had three men on the ground. We were trying to use minimum force but, in the situation, what chance did we have?" He insisted, however, that the order was not carried out. "The men had already loaded backshots. No ball ammunition was used."

Nelson Mandela, president of the African National Congress, has called on the government to ban and destroy the AWB. "This patience of the government with an organisation that promotes fascist, white-supremacist ideas is a danger to the negotiation process," he said.

Mr de Klerk's administration had to bear some responsibility for what had happened in Ventersdorp for allowing the AWB to exist as a paramilitary force. He added that the ANC had for some time been demanding a ban on the carrying of weapons, "cultural or otherwise", at public gatherings.

Brigadier Leon Mellett, a spokesman for the ministry of law and order, said the weapons allowed through police checkpoints at Ventersdorp on Friday had been properly licensed. "If we'd confiscated the weapons, there would have been an even greater bloodbath," he said.



Smiling through: Ameena Begum in police care after her "husband" was arrested

## Police rescue child bride

Delhi - A Saudi Arabian sheikh, aged 60, was remanded in police custody yesterday for two days pending further investigation after his arrest for going through a marriage ceremony with an Indian girl, aged ten, and trying to take her home.

The girl, Ameena Begum, was allegedly sold to Yahya al-Sagish by her family in

Hyderabad. She was rescued after fellow passengers on a flight to Delhi saw her crying. Police officers met the plane.

Police told a court in Delhi that he had in his possession photographs of four young girls and two marriage certificates, one for Ameena, the other for a woman, aged 32, whose whereabouts are unknown.

Sheikh al-Sagish was charged with marrying a minor. Indian law prohibits the marriage of girls under 18, but it is erratically enforced. According to the sheikh's lawyer, Feroze Khan, his client was told that the girl, the second eldest in a family of six daughters and two sons, was old enough to marry. (AP)

## Candidate confesses he is HIV positive

FROM JAMES BONE  
IN NEW YORK

FRESH-FACED Tom Duane starts out from posters plastered throughout Greenwich Village. A gay rights activist aged 36, he is running for a two-year term on New York's city council and has become a local hero in what is considered one of New York's few "gay-winnable" seats.

In a "Dear Neighbour" letter to 40,000 households, he has announced that he is infected with HIV, the virus which causes Aids. "In one sense," he wrote, "it's nobody's business that I've tested positive for the presence of the HIV virus in my blood. But I am a candidate for public office, and I believe in being candid."

His disclosure has added a new twist to the three-way contest for the Democratic party nomination in the third district, a constituency which includes Greenwich Village. At least 20 per cent of the constituency's voters are thought to be homosexual.

Earlier this year Mr Duane's main rival, Liz Abzug, also revealed that she was gay. After apparently being outmanoeuvred by him, she complained: "He has obviously made a political calculation that this is something that probably will be helpful."

Mr Duane tested positive for the virus in 1988, but was not ready to disclose the fact when he ran for the council in 1989. His decision to make his condition public in this year's race came after a report that Ms Abzug's fund-raiser had been criticising him privately for refusing to reveal the fact.

Mr Duane hopes his disclosure will "help create an atmosphere where people can feel more comfortable" about Aids in a city where 235,000 people are believed to be HIV positive.

● Dhaka - Thousands of people fled Sylhet in Bangladesh in panic after police detained a person thought to be carrying the HIV virus but allowed two others to escape. The three had been sent home from Dubai after doctors reportedly detected the virus.

## Turkish leader proposes early poll

Istanbul - Mesut Yilmaz, who became prime minister of Turkey two months ago, has proposed an early general election in a bid to consolidate his position (Andrew Finkel writes).

After meeting opposition leaders, Mr Yilmaz said the way was open for changes in the country's electoral law and for elections this November, a year ahead of the end of the government's five-year term.

## Peace bid

Islamabad - Three Soviet negotiators have arrived here for talks to help promote a political settlement between the opposing factions in Afghanistan. Moscow believes Islamabad is pursuing a "military solution" to the conflict, and Pakistan deplores continued Soviet support for President Najibullah. (AFP)

## Temple deaths

Phnom Penh - Seven monks, an elderly woman and a man aged 20, all from Thailand, have been found shot dead in a Buddhist temple filled with gold and jewellery. An expert on Asian gang violence, a growing problem in southern California and some other western states, has been called in to help the police. (Reuters)

## Grenade attack

Zamboanga, Philippines - A Muslim, apparently angered by a slur against Muhammad, is suspected of a grenade attack here on a quayside farewell gathering of foreign Christian missionaries from the ship Doulos, which tours the world exhibiting books. Two missionaries were killed and 36 wounded. (Reuters)

## Junkie food

Peking - Health officials closed down 92 restaurants and noodle shops in Luoyang, Henan province, for putting opium-poddy pods in food served to customers in an attempt to get them addicted to their food. The seeds came from nearby market stalls, pharmacies and centres selling traditional medicines. (AP)

## Peking wins praise for nuclear line

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

TOSHIO Kaifu, the Japanese prime minister, yesterday praised China's decision in principle to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

He was speaking on the second day of his visit to China, the first by any leader of a G7 nation since the Tiananmen Square killings two years ago. The visit marks China's return to the international community, which will be sealed next month when John Major, the prime minister, goes to Peking. Mr Kaifu said that the announcement on the treaty by Li Peng, his Chinese counterpart, was a

sign of China's friendship with Japan.

Mr Kaifu has apparently made no mention of the Peking killings, although that incident event has kept the leaders of industrialised nations, including himself, away from China for the past two years. Japan is still apologising for atrocities it committed in China decades ago, which partly explains Mr Kaifu's reticence. The Japanese leader laid a wreath in Tiananmen Square at the Monument to the People's Heroes, a traditional ritual for visiting heads of state.

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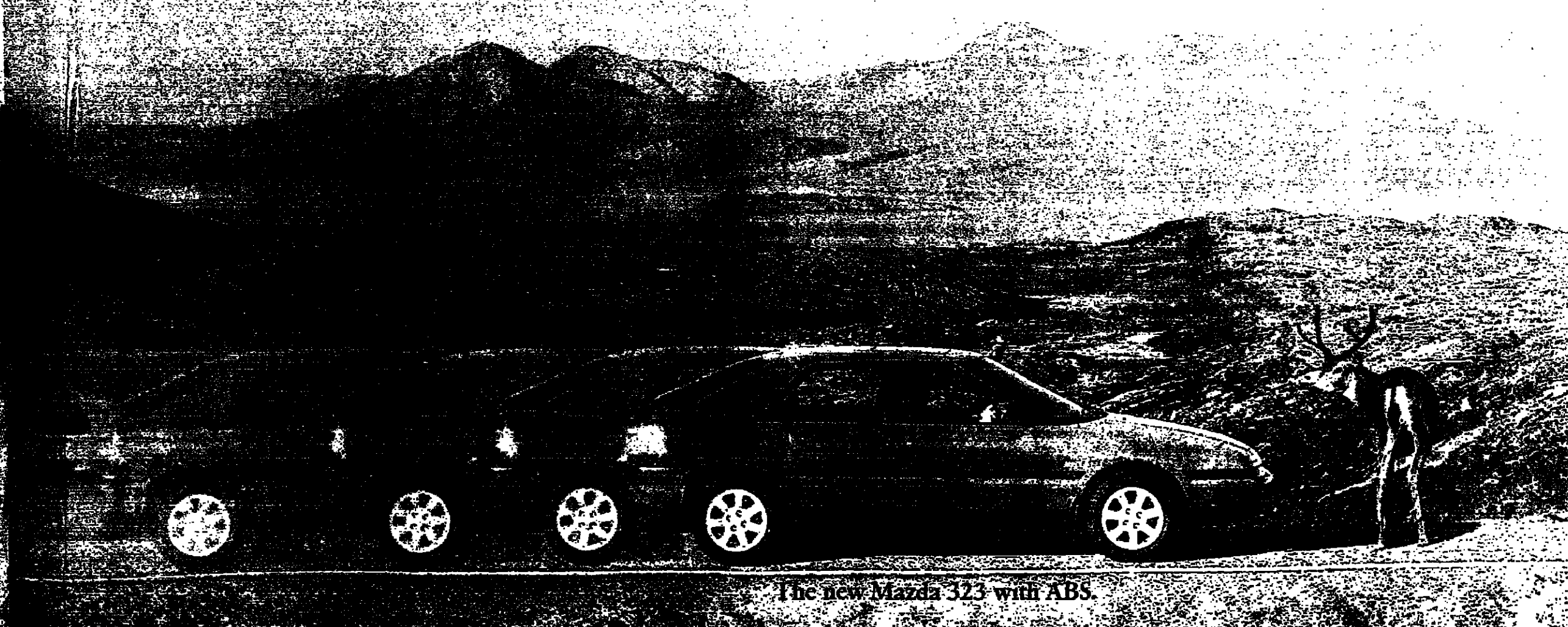
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From a Victorian countess Alastair Robertson traces an enlightened path that leads to the Open University

# What every servant girl should know

In the August of 1877 the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen made the annual pilgrimage to their palatial shooting lodge, House of Cromar, near Balmoral for the Glorious Twelfth.

But the young countess had more than grouse on her mind that August. The same month she had invited six thousand local domestic and farm servants to a garden party in the grounds of her new home, Haddo House in Aberdeenshire.

They were served, with some misgivings, by their employers with tea, lemonade and cakes. This social experiment was so extraordinary, and so lacking in the predicted drunken hankypanky expected of the Victorian lower orders, that *The Scotsman* newspaper felt obliged to devote a leading article to the event.

Notable for its novelty and success in these days of conflict between the classes.

The servants' garden party was no temporary lapse of convention by the young countess. Even before her marriage Isabel Marjoribanks had been involved with "rescue work" among London's prostitutes, to the evident distress of her father, Lord Tweedmouth. But it was the beginning of a married career devoted to women's rights and the education of the lower classes, particularly servant girls.

This reforming zeal might have been dismissed as batty but harmless had not Lady Aberdeen and her no less concerned husband gone on to take the eccentric, and in many eyes dangerous, step of forming the Haddo House Club for their own household of more than a hundred servants.

The Aberdeens were active in the club, which became the Grosvenor Square Club when the household moved to London for the season, and its office bearers were democratically elected. This lamentable tinkering with the

social order was to incur deep suspicion in society. It was also to bring the Aberdeens into royal disfavour with two sovereigns; so much so that Edward VII refused to stay with them in case, according to a waspish contemporary, "he found himself obliged to take a parlourmaid into dinner".

The servants' garden party had shown Lady Aberdeen the way. Farm servants flocked to reading and arithmetic classes. For the servant girls, seldom allowed out by their mistresses on account of their reputation for immorality, there were correspondence courses, the work overseen by district committees.

By the end of the first year 800 girls and 500 of their employers had enrolled in what became The Onward and Upward Association.

In 1891, 100 years ago, Lady Aberdeen launched a magazine of the same name. With W.T. Stead, the pioneer of popular journalism, as an adviser, it was distributed worldwide. By 1897 the association had 115 branches, including four in Canada and one in South Africa.

A summary of Lady Aberdeen's educational crusade and extracts from *Onward and Upward* have been published as *Upstairs to Downstairs - Advice to Servant Girls and Wary Mothers* by James Drummond, as part of Aberdeen University Press's (AUP) new Scottish Women's Studies series. Jill Dick, of AUP, says: "We may laugh at some of the writing, but Lady Aberdeen effectively launched the forerunner of the Open University with her correspondence courses for girls. More and more women are studying at home today, and owe a debt to her humanity."

The magazine included exhortations to "be a sunbeam in the kitchen. Perhaps you can sing. It is wonderful what effect a good old Scotch song can produce..." Coarse language in the kitchen could be countered with a lively

**Edward VII snubbed them in case 'he found himself obliged to take a parlourmaid into dinner'**



Receiving the baton: June, Marchioness of Aberdeen, inheritor of the Haddo House ethic and conductor of its choral and operatic society

conversation on "the breathing apparatus of the fallow deer". Cold baths should not, it was disclosed, be given to infants until they were a year old, and there was much good advice to sisters: "Many boys have their tempers spoiled and their views of their own powers soured by the badgering of their sisters."

W. This good work continued apace, the Aberdeens had begun to feel they were not doing as much as they could for their own household. The Haddo House Club was the next step. Lord and Lady Aberdeen were unanimously elected president and vice-president, and the unsettling effects of democracy were ever present. The under-butler's copperplate minute revealed: "Fred Hurst (odd job) strongly objects to the stiff way in which the social met on Thursday. If possible to get small tables and to mix freely." And it was done.

Two copies of the evening paper

were ordered for the library but no one, whatever their position in the hierarchy, was allowed to hog a copy for more than ten minutes if there was a queue. Worse still, club members had to take their turn setting the Saturday afternoon fire in the library.

A typical social evening consisted of a song - perhaps Annie Dunlop (housemaid) rendering "Only a Pansy Blossom", and Lord Aberdeen lecturing on railways. Hugh Smith (stables) performed a whistling solo and the singing class let rip with "The Life of Lord Shaftesbury". John Keddie (page) piped up with the charming little ditty "A Boy's Best Friend is His Mother".

But stories had begun to circulate in society that the Aberdeens were letting the side down. Not only did they know all their servants by name, but Lord Aberdeen was said to swap jokes

with his butler in the pantry. The rumours so alarmed Queen Victoria that her prime minister, Lord Rosebery, was called upon to investigate. The gossip was untrue, he reported. However, there was indeed a servants' club, and the president, Lord Aberdeen, had been elected by a show of hands in the servants' hall.

Hostesses began to attribute any insolent behaviour by servants to the bad example of the Aberdeen household. In 1902 J.M. Barrie's play *The Admirable Crichton* appeared on the London stage. That the plot included a peer whose family waited on the servants once a month with afternoon tea in the drawing room of their London residence was a remarkable coincidence.

In Ireland, where Lord Aberdeen had become Lord lieutenant, his wife inaugurated a servants' ball. The king, due to arrive on a state visit, made his feelings clear. He would not stay

with the Aberdeens. He would stay on his yacht. In the summer of 1914 the Aberdeens went home to Haddo and a grand concert in the wooden hall beside the house, which had become a community centre for the whole area.

The great war swept away the Onward and Upward Association. The magazine folded in 1930. But in 1945 the Aberdeens' grandson, Major David Gordon, invited Haddo's staff to form a singing class with his wife June, now Marchioness of Aberdeen, as conductor. The rebirth of Haddo as a centre of home-made entertainment had begun. Concerts, plays and recitals today draw audiences and enthusiastic amateur performers from far beyond the estate boundaries. Vaughan Williams, Sir Alexander Gibson, Dame Janet Baker and Leon Goossens have all followed in the footsteps of John Keddie (page) and his trembling "A Boy's Best Friend is His Mother".

## Groomed in the school of hard knocks

How Jules Hodgkinson, a 40-year-old Warwickshire sheep farmer, reached the top in the privileged world of women's polo

THIS week, amid accusations of overspending and disorganisation, the ritzy Royal County of Berkshire Polo Club near Ascot is hosting the top women's international tournament of the season. The event, masterminded by Major Ronald Ferguson with his customary robust charm, has attracted 12 teams and about 50 players from all over the world, including some of the most glamorous women in the game.

Among the big-name stars such

as the actress Stefanie Powers, playing hard since the closure of her West End show *Matador*, and the world number one, Clare Tomlinson, who owns and runs the exclusive Beaufort Club in Gloucestershire, is a Warwickshire sheep farmer, Jules Hodgkinson.

In a sport where most top players come from privileged backgrounds and start polo in childhood, Mrs Hodgkinson is a phenomenon. She took up the

game at 32, an age when many players are thinking of hanging up their sticks, and has gained her first international cap at 40, working flat out to fit her training into a hectic lifestyle.

"I had a tiny taste of polo at the age of 17, when I was doing a secretarial course in Oxford and went along to the Kirtlington Park Club, which my uncle, Alan Budget, had helped to build up again after the war. I'd ridden since I was a kid but it was my first experience of polo, and the sheer speed and excitement was so exhilarating I loved every second of it. All the same I knew I couldn't afford to keep playing, so I tried to forget about it and get on with my life."

Mr Hodgkinson, an Old Harrovian, was a polo enthusiast, twice gaining his half-blue at Cambridge and reaching an impressive three-goal handicap. After their marriage, he and Jules settled on a small mixed sheep and arable farm near Ettington, south of Stratford-upon-Avon, with his sons from a previous marriage, Dominic, now aged 16, and Thomas, 15, both at Harrow.

The boys have inherited their father's love of polo. Mrs Hodgkinson spent the weekend at Cowdray Park to cheer them on in the Pony Club polo championships. "They're so lucky to have started young, I'm doing it the hard way, but it's worth it," she says.

The "hard way" involves schooling her own mounts from scratch, rather than buying in expensive "made" ponies from Argentina. She practises stick-and-balling endlessly around the farm, plays at Kirtlington several times a week, and spends most weekends at polo matches, somehow fitting in her farm work. "I've just finished the sheep dipping," she says. "And I stink of the stuff."



A family that plays together: the Hodgkinson team (from left), Robert, Thomas, Jules and Dominic

After a last-minute panic when an attack of nerves during one of the final practices left Mrs Hodgkinson fearing she would be dropped, she is playing in her favourite position, alongside the formidable Ms Tomlinson, arguably the greatest woman player of all time, and Victoria Grace, a big hitter whose father, Peter Grace, runs the famous Rangitiki Polo School and Ascot Park Polo Club. "My handicap is zero," Mrs Hodgkinson says modestly, "but I suppose one reason I've been picked is that I'm a pretty competitive zero and useful to my team off that handicap."

The key to her rapid improve-

ment is her strength and natural athleticism. She excels at skiing, tennis and most ball games, which she tackles with a ferocious joy. She rejects Major Ferguson's oft-quoted dictum that polo is not a suitable game for women, but maintains that they must play it on the same terms as the men. "I play a lot of mixed polo and it's vital to keep an extremely stiff upper lip, however rough it gets. I was playing last summer and my pony turned quickly and hit another woman player in the bottom. She screamed blue murder and kept on and on about how much it hurt. Well, that's just not on. In mixed games you've got to

show you're as tough as they are and grit your teeth if you take a knock. The more professional men will take any advantage they can - and if they think that you can't take a knock without squealing, it gives them an extra weapon.

The standard of women's polo is improving all the time and at this level it also tends to be pretty physical. We've got some tough matches in store. Getting picked for England is one of the greatest experiences of my life - I just hope I keep my end up."

SALLY JONES

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Pony Club finals, page 27

## Going into Albania

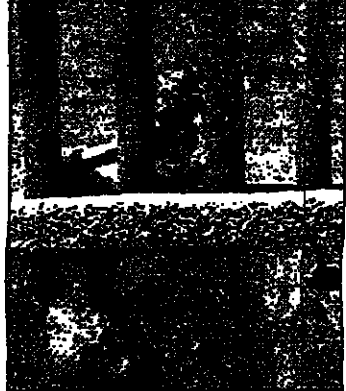
From Corfu tourists can sample the country so many others want to leave

A small port on the southeast coast of Albania has become the centre for an unusual trade: people who will pay to get into the country. Agios Sarandë, only one and a half hours by sea from the Greek island of Corfu, is introducing holiday-makers to tourism Albanian style.

The town, already a holiday resort for Albanians (though it boasts but a single hotel), plays host to those staying on Corfu who are prepared to book their day trip six days in advance, giving their passport details, profession and father's name. As the area enjoys at least 330 days of sunshine a year, visitors get a warm welcome. From the sea, Agios Sarandë seems to cling to the sunburnt hillside behind it. The flats to the north are concrete and slightly ramshackle. The town is built in a similar vein - sturdy and square. On the jetty stands a solitary crane above some rusty containers. The day of our visit was not a busy one. Dockers stood smoking and chatting to young soldiers with old rifles on their shoulders.

A small boat bearing two uniformed officials carrying a small briefcase left the jetty and headed towards us. The officials leapt aboard, set up a table and took out their ink pads and stamps. On the road above the jetty small groups of locals, not yet bored by the arrival of foreigners, gathered for a look.

As we were driven to the hotel, we were advised not to exchange more than one pound each into lekes. The lek is an unpopular animal. The Albanians themselves have hardly any time for it. What



A child at the Butrintë ruins little can be bought in this country cannot be paid for in lekes. In a corner of the hotel was a cabinet containing fine lace and odd Albanian trinkets priced from \$30 to \$100.

Outside visitors were immediately befriended by ragged, shoeless children who, not surprisingly, could spot a tourist from a hundred yards. They tugged at our sleeves and asked for gum, money, cigarettes and ball-point pens.

A coach took us to the promised 15-mile tour to the Roman ruins at Butrintë. Driving round the southern headland, we saw the beautiful mountain scenery that we had glimpsed from the sea approach.

The ruins, high up on a river bank, seemed to be sinking. The 1,000-seat amphitheatre now overlooks a small, slimy pond. The guide gave us what detail she could, which was little.

Lunch at the hotel was in a large dining-room reminiscent of a school canteen. A local band played pleasantly enough, and costumed dancers performed. Our three courses at £6 a head (beer or wine extra) consisted of cheese flan, followed by fish with a small dollop of shrimps, accompanied with by a side plate of fried potatoes - fish and chips, Albanian style. Dessert was a chocolate éclair.

We had 45 minutes to explore the town. "Time for shopping," as the brochure put it. Outside the hotel, we waded through the children and walked along the sea front. There is no beach to speak of, hardly any shops and nowhere to spend money.

Still, the town is pretty. The untidy flats and crumbling buildings are surrounded by bright and cheerful flowers, and in amongst them, sometimes almost hidden, are commemorative plaques. Most refer to the second world war. Our guide, perhaps nervous about the mix of English and Germans on the trip, had not mentioned the war at all, but the locals did their best, one stopping to explain with a series of bangs and kaputts the story behind one of the plaques.

The beauty of the Albanian countryside, the good climate and the desperate need for hard currency seemed to mean only one thing - "it'll be like Corfu in 20 years", said one fellow visitor bluntly as we prepared to leave. Our passports were checked and stamped again by the immigration officer, in a much better mood now that we were going.

JEREMY BAYSTON

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## THEATRE

## Tree-planter's punchy approach

Peter Egan, touring a production of Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* in which for the first time he directs and acts, talks to Jeremy Kingston

This summer Peter Egan renewed a working partnership with Richard Briers that began ten summers ago when they played the two male leads in a stage production of Shaw's *Arms and the Man*. It continued with the long-running television series *Ever Decreasing Circles*, in which Briers played the fustian husband and Egan the calm and courteous neighbour. In their new assignment they are again playing the male leads but with something else added to the mix, namely, Egan as director. And though he has directed before, this is the first time he has taken a stab at directing himself as an actor.

The play is *Uncle Vanya*, the second of Chekhov's four last great plays, and the one in which the balance between comedy and sorrow is most perfectly achieved. Chekhov was still attached to the idea that a play needed a revolver shot somewhere near the end, but when the downtrodden Vanya, played here by Briers, finally rouses himself and lunges after his dry-as-dust brother-in-law (Patrick Godfrey), he fires

part that is most right for Richard. Briers has been acting with Renaissance almost since it began, but for Egan the role is not just his first appearance with the company but only his third stage role since the early Eighties. Throughout the Seventies he worked at Chichester, the National and the RSC, winning an award for Best Actor for his gaunt, haunted Stanhope in *Journal of a Man*.

"The first thing I directed was *Landmarks* by Nick Dark, the play that opened the Lyric Studio at Hammersmith. Then I did the revival of *Rattle of a Simple Man*, with John Alderton and Pauline Collins. I was becoming a bit disenchanted with my own acting — it is something that can happen, you know — and for two years I was artistic director of the Mill at Sonning, in Berkshire. That meant selecting the plays and directors but not acting there, until I found I was being asked a lot if I had switched horses and was giving up acting altogether.

"That worried me, so it was good to be then offered a lot of work on television. The situation comedies, yes, but *The Perfect Spy*, *Paradise Postponed* and what now seems like a host of others so that I did not act in theatre from 1982 till last year. Suddenly I was asked to take over from Anthony Hopkins in *M. Butterfly*, then I went back to the RSC for Gorky's *Barbarians*, another 'moustache and beard job', and now *Vanya*, which has, unexpectedly, turned out to bring together my acting and directing. Kenneth had cast most of it — Richard, me and the girls — and had started discussions with Kenny Miller, who has designed our set. It is a very classical set, all of wood, that represents beautifully both the raw material — which is Astrov's obsession — and a sense of decay. It is also a grand space to act in."

*'Of Chekhov's four last great plays, here the balance between comedy and sorrow is most perfectly achieved'*

Egan plays Astrov, the hard-working, hard-drinking country doctor with an obsession for planting trees, a visionary who can be seen as a Green campaigner, 90 years ahead of his time. Though Astrov's concern was chiefly for replenishing forests, it still seems appropriate that Egan's hotel in Bath, the last date on the tour, should look out over a mighty cedar, copper beeches in full purple and a rampaging yucca. Beds of lavender perfumed the air outside and vases of lilies inside. The overall impression was modestly imperial as well as generously arboreal, and Egan himself tugged thoughtfully at the upturned ends of an almost Tsarist moustache, grown for the present assignment.

"Kenneth had a thought to do five Chekhov plays, the last four and *Ivanov*, all in one season, but of course it is very ambitious to take on four just one play, whether Chekhov's or anybody's, and *Vanya* is the

most perfect of them. It is a very classical set, all of wood, that represents beautifully both the raw material — which is Astrov's obsession — and a sense of decay. It is also a grand space to act in."

Egan and Branagh were in agreement in wanting a vigorous and passionate interpretation of the play. "There can sometimes be an excess of dreaminess in Chekhov productions that I hope you won't find in ours."

And directing himself? "Well, I did become just a little anxious about that at one time, though it was a comfort to remember that Renaissance house-style is to have actors directing plays. Kenneth himself, of course, but Derek Jacobi for *Hamlet*. And then Judi Dench with *Much Ado About Nothing* and Geraldine McEwan's *As You Like It*, lovely productions, and they have both gone on to direct elsewhere. But though Kenneth has directed himself, this was the first time I had tried doing so and I did fear I had neglected to give myself enough



Peter Egan: sporting an almost Tsarist moustache, grown for the role of Astrov in *Uncle Vanya*

notes, if you can see what I mean." He twirls one end of his moustache doubtfully. "It's a curious position to take up. Outside the acting yet inside it, attending to my own scenes and concerned with all the others too. Tiring." The other end gets a twirl. "I think I'm still bringing it into shape."

Perhaps the moustache is on his mind but probably it is his performance. Not the other performances, however. "They are very good, oh very good indeed." For just a moment he seems to be wondering how they would have managed, if attempting the double job, but what he finally says is: "It is a lovely play

to act in and a lovely play to direct. I never thought I would have the chance to do both."

Renaissance Theatre Company's production of *Uncle Vanya* previews tonight and tomorrow, opens on Wednesday at the Lyric Theatre, King Street, London W6 (081-741 2311).

## LITERATURE

## Sad neglect of a Nobel laureate

Rabindranath Tagore died 50 years ago this month. Joseph Connolly argues that this writer should be better remembered

Rabindranath Tagore, the Bengali poet and seer, died 50 years ago this month, and despite this century's recurring enthusiasms for the arts of India, Tagore's work seems to have fallen out of fashion. He is no longer required reading for the younger generation, nor has he been since the Sixties, when all things Indian were eagerly embraced. Many remain unaware that in addition to being a prolific poet, Tagore was also a novelist, painter, musician and one of the earliest exponents of the short story form. He received the Nobel prize for Literature in 1913 (the first Asian to do so); his poetry was praised by Yeats; and he received a knighthood in 1915.

The current lack of interest in Tagore is to be regretted, although it is understandable. Tagore has been badly served in the past by translators; his music and painting never truly appealed to British taste, and although his novels — such as *The Home and the World* and *Gora* — were briefly fashionable in the early part of the century, they all faded away with just cause. The verse and short stories, however, are a different case: the very best of them convey a great strength and uplifting courage, while containing some of the finest evocations of childhood and natural beauty to be found in 20th century Romantic writing.

Tagore was born in Calcutta in 1861, the youngest of seven sons, whose father was the leader of a religious sect. Educated by tutors in the vast family mansion, Tagore was composing music at the age of eight (many of his later songs retaining the stanzas of national anthems in Bengal today), and had begun to write verse. His reading centred on established Bengali poets, Sanskrit classics, and English romantic poetry: notably Shelley. The bulk of his early work, therefore, was highly derivative, but as Tagore produced more, the singular voice exemplified by his best-known work *Gitanjali* ("Song Offerings") began to emerge: lyrical, but powered by intensely vivid, largely natural, imagery.

By the age of 50, Tagore had produced hundreds of poems and songs, scores of stories and several novels (the second edition of just the poetry, published in India in 1903, ran to 13 volumes). But still he was almost entirely unknown in Europe and America. That changed in 1912 when he visited London; here his work was shown to influential literary figures, most notably W.B. Yeats, who wrote an introduction to *Gitanjali*. The impression made by

Tagore was profound and immediate — his aristocratic bearing, long hair and beard serving to increase the West's fascination — and within a year he had lectured in the United States, received the Nobel prize and achieved fame and popularity across Europe. Two years later, the knighthood was his, although he renounced the honour in 1919, as a result of British policy in the Punjab, giving voice, he said, "to the protest of the millions of my countrymen".

Tagore was fiercely patriotic, but such political intervention was a rarity: he did not see himself as a statesman, and nor, despite his reputation as a mystic and a seer, did he pretend to original philosophy, contenting himself with expanding upon and interpreting the traditional teachings of such as the *Bhagavad Gita*, within the framework of his prose.

Although his popularity faded almost as rapidly as it had grown, Tagore continued to write until the end of his life. But already far too much had been published, the repetitive and humdrum doing serious damage to the reputation of his fine and vigorous pastoral poems. His reputation today depends upon an excellent *Selected Poems* edited by William Radice, who has just published a fine selection of previously untranslated Tagore short stories; their strength and realism are shot through with a sometimes vivacious poetic insight to produce something truly original. As a result of these two slim volumes, Tagore's torch could well burn again.

Rabindranath Tagore: *Selected Poems and Selected Short Stories*, edited and translated by William Radice, are published by Penguin at £5.99 each.

ARTS REVIEWS  
Edinburgh Festival,  
Theatre and Proms  
PAGE 16

"I had to outline, for example, the history of the concerto in the 17th century on the back of a postcard."



Peter Fletcher hopes the new national music curriculum will pinpoint the things that really matter.

TES

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

## EDINBURGH FESTIVAL: OPERA

## Approval chorused for throwback

DAVE HUTCHINSON

In this his swansong, Frank Dunlop seems to have been determined to stamp on the notion that music has been the least of his priorities as festival director. The representation of new work is still pitifully small, in striking contrast with what is on offer in the theatres and galleries. However, the luminaries have been timed to shine in the Usher Hall over the coming three weeks, from Margaret Price to Nigel Kennedy (my scale is merely chronological), and on the opera front, quite apart from a new *Clemenza di Tito*, there is an extraordinary Russian double: next week the Bolshoi in *Christmas Eve* and Eugene Onegin, this week the Kirov in the complete theatre works of Mussorgsky.

The spectacle began on Saturday with the Kirov Opera in *Khovanshchina*, which is playing again at the Playhouse tonight, and which demands to be seen for two utterly remarkable things: the vociferous splendour of the chorus, like a mob in song, and the uncannily preserved dramatic style. It is not often these days one gets to see a production whose designer died in 1955. Though the effect of Feodor Fedorovsky's painted backdrops and lumpy scenery is inevitably quaint and starchy, it is also brave and even exhilarating in its defiance of time: a living and thrilling survivor from the great age of Russian stage design. This is a theatrical time machine that seems to spring those tantalising photographs of the Moscow Art Theatre suddenly into life.

That it does so is partly because the director, Leonid Baranov, is a man who was working with Stanislavsky in the early 1920s, and whose great forte clearly was the tableau. Sometimes the effect is a touch comic, as when



A scene from the Kirov Opera's *Khovanshchina*, which opened the 1991 Edinburgh Festival

Peter the Great, unrequited by Mussorgsky but an audience pleaser in his own city, comes bounding on for the final seconds of what is here the second act.

But there are intensely strong stage pictures, too. The scriver's appearance earlier in the same act ends with him on his knees, huddled and fearful, a raddled grey figure staring out from within the ranks of Prince Ivan Khovansky's gorgeously red-coated private army of Streltsy. And in the following scene set on Khovansky's estate there is the moving, very Russian invention of a dumb, half-witted fool, mouthing after the prince and clinging to his garments.

The role of the elder Khovansky is taken commandingly by Bulat Minzhiliev, a forceful presence who sings of his nature with a voice of immediacy, spring and

Garden, as she is scheduled. Whatever the powers of the principals, though, it is the choruses that will ring on in the mind: the rabble with a certain deliberate fragility, as if barely daring to give voice, contrasting with the magnificent, stamping authority of the Streltsy, and then the submitted serenity of the Old Believers as they set about their self-immolation.

The orchestra, too, under the Kirov's musical director Valery Gergiev, moves as if with a single mind and always with purposeful passion. This is a score in which the orchestral contribution is nearly always subservient, a line in the background, but here it is always a breathing, brooding line, an onlooker unseen on the stage, and its colours are the appropriately sombre ones of the Shostakovich orchestration. It should be a truly festive experience to follow this conductor, these players and singers through the scenes of Mussorgsky's abandoned operas to the grand finale of *Boris* on Friday.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

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## Cue the Pavarotti of poetry

William Cash wants verse for the masses

On Saturday the Edinburgh Fringe opened in the Assembly Rooms with a poetry reading by the likes of Norman MacCaig, Craig Raine and Wendy Cope. This was followed by a Pavarotti-style, open-air public reading high up on the rocky crags of Arthur's Seat at dawn yesterday. Now that opera has been brought to the masses, shrewd promoters will be looking at the potential of other minority arts that have been perceived as elitist in the past. Poetry is ripe for a boom, as it already has a proven mass audience.

Every morning last week, for example, Radio 4 listeners have enjoyed *Summoned by Bells*, John Betjeman's evocation of his childhood and Oxford years. Poetry sales at Faber & Faber are up by 40 per cent on ten years ago. Wendy Cope's best-selling volume of poetry, *Making Cocoa for Kingsley Amis*, sold 33,000 copies in four years.

Part of the vogue has come from the cinema. Just as the film *Amadeus* brought Mozart to the masses, so, according to the organisers of the "Poethon" in Edinburgh, part of the recent interest in poetry was inspired by *Dead Poets Society*. With poetry no longer widely learnt by heart at school, and some English literature O-level courses not even requiring Shakespeare, the film introduced many young people to the force of poetry for the first time.

Those who complain that there is no money in poetry are unwittingly hitting the key to its commercial and marketing potential. Unlike opera, poetry is absurdly cheap. Its commercial value lies in the money that can be saved by using what is perhaps the world's oldest and most memorable way of communication. And the brevity of poetry is ideally suited to the whittling of the modern world, where many people hardly have time to read a newspaper.

The success of Poems on the Tube proves this. This splendid enterprise, costing next to nothing, has brightened the journey to work for millions of Londoners with a score of often little-known, amusing and lyrical short poems dotted around the carriages (an anthology of them is to be published next month).

Surely if they could swallow their pride, as Mozart did for commercial gain and Auden did with his magnificent *Night Mail*, commissioned by the Post Office for an advertising film, poets could make a small fortune out of penning verse to promote noble national causes — from saving London Zoo to the Badminton Cabinet. Newspapers and hoardings could be plastered with original and witty lines, from living and dead poets, and it would cost much less than hiring an advertising firm to come up with a banal package.

The risible reason poetry has had difficulty realising its commercial potential is that there is a reluctance on behalf of the poetry establishment to "sell out" — as if verse that has a mass appeal is inferior. This would have seemed ludicrous to poets such as Tennyson and Hardy, the Pavarotti of their day. The real reason most modern poets are reluctant to "sell out" is that most poetry being written today is essentially introverted, private and self-conscious.

Next year will mark the centenary of the death of Tennyson, perhaps our finest public poet. Amid the celebrations, it should be remembered that part of the reason he remains popular is because he believed in the notion of a public good, as these lines from *Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington* encapsulate: *Not once or twice in our rough island-story The path of duty was the way to glory*

## Gorbachev gets the benefit of the doubt

Anatole Kaletsky

interviews

an optimistic

Norman Lamont

(right) after his

visit to Moscow



The West should take at face value the Soviet Union's commitment to become a market-oriented democracy, Norman Lamont said last week after heading the first Group of Seven mission to Moscow. As chairman of the finance ministers of G7, the club of the world's richest countries, Mr Lamont is also an adviser — and booster — of the last communist government in Europe. Speaking of his visit to the Treasury last week, he tempered his optimism with caution. But the optimism kept winning.

He cited three reasons for coming back to London more hopeful than he left. First, President Gorbachev finally appeared to be committed to reform: in that respect, there seemed to have been a genuine breakthrough in Soviet thinking. "Gorbachev was very firm in his view that the time had come to create a market system," said the Chancellor. "I was particularly encouraged by the way he talked in terms of creating small businesses, entrepreneurs and private retailers. His position has really shifted. He has not talked like this before,

although of course the proof remains to be seen."

Mr Lamont admitted that Mr Gorbachev was more cautious about agriculture, partly because of the troubled history of Russian land ownership. But he said Boris Yeltsin, the Russian president, was "very committed to privatisation and prepared to go much further than Gorbachev in privatising land". According to the Union Treaty initiated by the main Soviet leaders last week, the republican authorities will be mainly responsible for ownership matters and property laws.

This treaty was Mr Lamont's second reason for optimism. He predicted that the Union Treaty would be signed within the next few months by the main republics. Mr Yeltsin had told him that Russia would sign the treaty and stated that the vexed question of taxation had been settled. Mr Gorbachev was "very optimistic" about the number of republics that would ultimately sign.

Mr Lamont's third reason for optimism was the least tangible, but in some ways the most important: private enterprise was starting to blossom, even in the hostile Soviet climate. "I realised

that people were wrong to say that entrepreneurship had been completely snuffed out in the Soviet Union. I saw not only small businessmen and private entrepreneurs, but also managers of large factories who showed tremendous initiative. There was one manager who had diversified into satellite dishes for picking up Western television. He also made clocks and marble chess pieces — anything that would sell. On the Moscow commodity exchange I saw traders buying and selling Panasonic televisions, aircraft, even condoms — anything to bypass the state system. One came across examples like this all

the time. We in the West have probably underestimated the energy and initiative that ordinary Soviet people show in simply leading their daily lives."

Of course, there was still a tendency to regard people who trade in shops as anti-social, and to talk of "criminal elements". The people were "being asked to change their religion" — they cannot do this overnight. But Mr Lamont seemed convinced that Mr Gorbachev and the top leadership no longer shared these atavistic communist views.

As for the bureaucratic and managerial elite, Mr Lamont picked up a crucial point that

most Western observers have missed. Many of the apparatchiks now realised that the old system could not be recreated and some were beginning to think they could gain from reform. "A lot of privileged people will benefit from privatisation. Some people with positions have an incentive to change the system."

But while Mr Lamont appeared optimistic about the long-term prospects for structural reform, the immediate future seemed bleak. Soviet plans to control inflation and budget deficits remained vague. His hopes of making the rouble convertible into foreign currencies by next year were unrealistic. A premature move to convertibility "would be a disaster". But asked whether convertibility might take five or ten years, Mr Lamont was more optimistic. "It certainly won't be as long as that."

Like convertibility, the matter of financial aid was irrelevant at present. First the Soviet people had to deal with their fundamental problems — their constitutional disputes, their systems of law and ownership, budget deficits and monetary expansion. The Chancellor would con-

plate one financial concession. After the summer holidays he would reconsider "as a matter of urgency" the suspension of credit insurance by Britain's Export Credits Guarantee Department.

On membership of the International Monetary Fund, Mr Lamont repeated that the G7 countries were not opposed to full Soviet membership as a long-term objective. But he urged the Soviet Union to accept the immediate offer of "associate status", which would allow it to receive advice but not financial aid. The objection to full membership was not a matter of politics but of "intra-IMF organisational issues".

However, did not the lack of financial assistance, either from the G7 or the IMF, imply that the West remained sceptical about the Soviet Union's intentions? Certainly not, Mr Lamont insisted. "We ought to take their promises at face value. It would be childish and pointless not to." Then, the mask of the international statesman slipped, revealing the cold eye of the Treasury. "After all, if the Soviets don't mean what they say, it will cost us nothing."

With a murderous blow, Hollywood has sullied one of the noblest names in history's roll-call, says Bernard Levin

## Eating heroes is wrong

I have a rather curious request to make today; though odd, it would not be difficult to grant, and I would be very grateful. The trouble is that I am really making my plea worldwide, and I can hardly flatter myself that the entire world is listening. Still, I must start somewhere.

It all began with the film *The Silence of the Lambs*. I have not seen it — I see very few films, and was not drawn to this one — and I know little more than that it is about a man who kills and eats women, and that the film has been hugely successful both in the United States and Britain, and for all I know everywhere else. So it seems that my plea, if it is to be answered, must be answered soon or never answered at all.

In the film, the name of the cannibalistic murderer is Hannibal Lecter, and — obviously because of the rhyme — Hannibal and cannibal look as though they will shortly be intertwined for ever. Indeed, when a couple of weeks ago a very real cannibalistic murderer was apprehended in the United States, his refrigerator crammed with human heads and pots on his stove bubbling away with other parts of bodies, he was immediately dubbed "Hannibal". His name is Jeffrey Dahmer, but whatever happens to him he will be known as Hannibal for ever, and every time another mass murderer, even without cannibalistic tendencies, is suspected the name of Hannibal will be fastened upon him.

But not if I can help it, though I suspect I can't. For I want to rescue the name of Hannibal from the infamy of horrible and inexplicable murder.

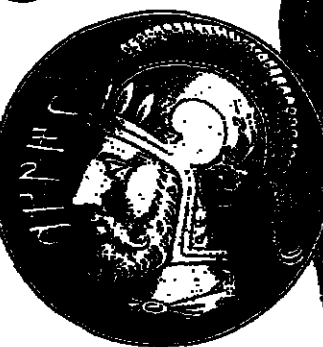
Those readers who have done

me the honour of reading my book *Hannibal's Footsteps*, or who have seen my television series of the same title, will know that Hannibal was a boyhood hero of mine, and the idea that led to both book and films was in turn conceived very many years before, when I came upon the tenth satire of Juvenal:

Weigh the dust of Hannibal; what do the mighty commander's ashes amount to now? Yet 'him Africa was too small... added Spain to his Empire, then he crossed the Pyrenees. Before him lay the Alps, drenched in snow... Italy lies prostrate, on he goes. "It is nothing," he cries, "until we are through the gates of Rome, until we piece with the standards of Carthage the very heart of our foe. On, on, you madman! Onwards across these murderous Alps! Thrill schoolboys with your exploits, so that they may have a fit subject for their mock orations!"

The point is that Juvenal was right; he guessed that the name and fame of Hannibal would endure where and while audacity, courage and steadfastness were admired. Indeed, he proved it then and there, for he was writing something like 300 years after Hannibal's death, and from the tone of his words it was clear that he assumed his readers would be familiar with the name and exploits of the great general.

Hannibal knew, as anyone who understood power and dominance knew, that "Two stars keep not their motion in one sphere"; sooner or later either Rome or Carthage would have to be destroyed. In the end, it was Rome that conquered; but Hannibal made it a close-run thing; if he had listened to his cavalry com-



Hannibal the great: now, alas, coming down in the world

mander after Cannae and gone straight for Rome, world history might have been very different. Never mind what might have happened; let us look at what did. The first characteristic vignette of Hannibal we have comes from Livy — a citizen, after all, of a nation which fought Carthage for centuries.

He woke and slept not according to the time of day or night but according to the demands of his work, and when he did finally go to his rest... his troops became familiar with the sight of their commander lying on the bare earth among the guards and sentinels, wrapped only in his cloak. On horse or on foot, he was the first to charge, the last to leave the battlefield.

You may argue that Hannibal's principal achievements — practically all his achievements — consisted of a series of battles, in almost all of which he was victorious; a great general, then, but what else? Well, a devoted servant of his country, which (it is a theme that runs through history) repeatedly let him down, her leaders preferring to squabble



for power at home while he fought their battles abroad. He was also a man who, in a time when consideration had hardly been invented, thought of his men day and night; when they finally got down on to the Italian plain, looking and feeling, as Polybius says, more like

animals than men, Hannibal gave them fresh meat, and more to the point, fresh food. And there is another, and overwhelming, clue: although his army was made up mainly of mercenaries, there is no record of any of his soldiers deserting.

What does all this amount to?

It can be put in a word: leadership. We usually think of that in terms of war, and particularly of course in the case of Hannibal. But the truth is that his character was far broader; in any walk of life, he would have been a man who inspired devotion and to whom a lifelong allegiance would be sworn by all those who recognised his qualities.

Of course, the elephants have adorned the story. Hannibal buffs have mis-spent many hours arguing about whether they were African or Indian ones, and even more time arguing about which pass he took over the Alps, but the magical thought of those tremendous beasts lumbering up the foothills, up the steep, finally up the crest, has captured the imagination of the world for centuries, and rightly.

Yet there is more to him even than that. After the final defeat of Carthage, he went into exile, hunted by an implacable Rome longing to show him, defeated and bowed, to the multitude. But in one of the cities in which he came to rest, he met his great opponent and ultimate conqueror: Scipio. Who can fail to cheer at the marvellous compliment — one of the most beautifully couched in all history — that Hannibal paid to Scipio. Of course their talk was of soldiers and battles, and as they talked Scipio asked Hannibal whom he would name as the greatest of all generals. "Alexander" was the inevitable reply. And who, said Scipio, would be put second? "Pyrrhus," said Hannibal. And third? "Myself."

Scipio had a final question: "What would you have said if you had beaten me?" "Ah, then," said Hannibal, "I would have thought myself the greater of them all."

Now do you see why it pains me to see the noble name of Hannibal dragged through the blood of real and fictional murderers? As I said when I began, he was my boyhood hero, but the more I contemplate him and his qualities, the more I admire him, and the more I grieve for a world in which there are very few men of such stature, knowing that soon there will be none. Please, oh please, do not let Rome have the last word.

...and moreover

## MATTHEW PARRIS

Although I couldn't be happier on holiday here, there is a problem about Turkey. For the tourist, it lacks what the PR people would call "a corporate identity". Japan is cherry blossoms and Mount Fuji, isn't it? Australia is kangaroos and Sydney Opera House. Beirut is bombs. So what is Turkey?

This matters. Countries, like cigarettes, are sold on broad recognition. For mass-marketing, a nation needs an image. A tourist concept is at best a fraction of the truth and at worst a complete lie. Scotland has been sold for generations on a powerful myth involving kilts, bagpipes and haggis. Israel is currently running an embarrassing campaign depicting the place as a sort of all-inclusive pizza of New Testament holinesses, happy Arabs and skindiving off Eilat. I'm sure it sells.

Spain, starting with Carmen, offers us the marketing man's model: bullfights, castanets... scant justice to the great spread of peoples and landscapes that is really Spain, but potent. The United States shows that neither the country nor the image need be primitive for promotion under the banner of a clear corporate identity.

And that is Turkey's tragedy. There was a perfectly marketable and attractive image available — and the Greeks nicked it. A small, relatively unimportant country on the fringes of big, central, crucial Turkey, has grabbed our attention and elbowed its giant neighbour to the

margins. It is one of the best sleights of hand in marketing history.

The whole thing has been done on the basis of the Ancient Greeks and their ruddy Parthenon. But the modern Greeks have little connection with their ancient ones and occupy a different territory, which does happen to include Athens. Most of the best Greek ruins, let alone Roman ones, are in Turkey.

So the classy handle to the Greek tourist package is fake. Now open the package. Ouzo, figs and bouzouki music? Much more of all three in Turkey. Under different names. Idyllic Mediterranean coast, coves and beaches? Infinitely more of both, and better, in Turkey. Sun-kissed islands? Turkey has these too; and do you know where the Greek ones are, largely barren, get the produce they sell to tourists as Greek food? White-washed houses with blue doors? Yoghurt? Kebabs? Goat's milk cheese? All Turkish. Turkish food is similar to, but richer than, the "Greek" food we love to eat in London, but find disappointing in Greece. I could go on. The scale of the larceny by which Greece has cornered for itself the tourist heritage of a whole section of the Mediterranean is breathtaking. And they complain about the Elgin Marbles!

This is far worse: the pirating of cultural copyright. And this, though it dwarfs modern Greece, is only the bottom left-hand corner of Turkey we're discussing. I haven't touched the Black Sea or the races and regions of central and eastern Turkey,

about which we know next to nothing in Britain.

I blame Mrs Thatcher. There are too many marginal north London constituencies with too many Greek Cypriot voters for Turkey to get so much as a friendly mention in Parliament. There seems to be no Turkish lobby in Britain. And now they're calling it "Greek" coffee! It'll be Greek Delight next, mark my words, before the Greeks go on to claim little red fez and decorated slippers as theirs.

...oops — sorry: a friend tells me the slippers are already sold to tourists on the Greek islands. You probably think I've been got at by the Turkish Tourist Board. Not so. I have simply been poked in the chest in too many barbers and fish and chip shops by the sons and daughters of the Greek Cypriots who shot at us through the Fifties before settling down to moon that Britain and the world should protect them from the Turks.

The last straw came when, on finding that the best way to get here was to fly to a neighbouring Greek island and take the ferry to the Turkish mainland, where there is no airport, was informed that the Greeks would confiscate my air ticket if I tried to return the same way. Are they afraid that tourists who visit Turkey will rumble the Greek Tourist Board conspiracy?

If you have time to go to a Greek prison, you might try a test case with the European Court. Meanwhile, here is a suggested slogan for the Turkish Tourist Board: "Discover the real Greece. Come to Turkey."

## On the road to Damascus

EDWARD TRACY, the American hostage freed yesterday, was one of the more colourful Western characters on the Beirut scene. But what would he have thought of the fuss his release caused among the press in Lebanon?

His kidnappers announced that Tracy, aged 60, would be released at midday at Beirut's Beau Rivage Hotel. Until Syria became so closely involved in the release of Western hostages, kidnappers used to give captives their first taste of freedom there.

Beirut's journalists were delighted that the release would take place on their doorstep, and rushed to the hotel. But come noon yesterday and there was no sign of Tracy. The reporters, by now rather agitated, started shouting: "We want the hostage." But the Syrians had given them the slip and quietly moved Tracy over the border to Damascus, where he appeared in the full splendour of the Syrian foreign ministry. As Henry Kissinger once noted, Syria's President Assad never misses a trick.

Tracy, who speaks fluent Arabic and has converted to Islam, was originally drawn to the collection of Beirut in the days before the civil war. He thought there would never be kidnapping. He also counted himself a poet and was photographed for the jackets of his books lying on a motorcycle surrounded by young women.

But will he achieve the fame of John McCarthy? Sir Anthony Parsons, Britain's former ambassador to the United Nations, says: "The use of Mr McCarthy by his kidnappers as an envoy to Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN secretary-general, is unique."



They must know something in Finchley, Mrs Thatcher's constituency, that the rest of us do not. Notes accompanying the London borough of Barnes's electoral roll registration form state: "I would remind you that a parliamentary election is imminent."

## All fired up

THE NAZIS were still trying to spur Germany on to ultimate victory in 1944 with uplifting broadcasts including Berlin Radio playing its orchestra's triumphant account of Beethoven's *Emperor* concerto. But a recording with the pianist Walter Gieseking has just been discovered which tells the truth of Germany's predicament — in parts of the first movement the distant crack of anti-aircraft fire can be heard.

Sounds more like Tchaikovsky's 1812



The magazine *Classical Express* describes the recording as the best sample of Gieseking's style. But it was a purely sartorial triumph. As Germany lurched towards defeat, the magazine says, the playing "denies the truth of its circumstances and proclaims absolute victory, a fiercely affirmative, brilliantly executed reading."

## House style

AS MORE young blood comes into the House of Lords, the old guard is launching a determined bid to keep up sartorial standards. There have been rumblings of discontent in the upper house since one young peer was spotted sporting a gold ear-ring.

There is talk of a commission being set up to investigate standards of dress, and to make recommendations to the House authorities. One suggestion has already been made that, like certain London restaurants, a supply of acceptable clothing should be kept for use by peers who arrive unsuitably dressed.

Lord Hailsham says: "No one could say I am a model of sartorial perfection. But I would not wear a stud in my ear. The Lords, in common with the rest of society, is becoming more relaxed, but I would like to see standards being kept higher than they are now."

However, Lord Willis, who has heard the rumours of a commission, is not unduly alarmed by the change in standards of dress. "Apart from the odd flash of scarlet sock, the scuffed suede shoe, and the purple tie, their lordships appear to me to be dressed in a style which would reflect credit on a convention of undertakers."

Lord Mancroft, who, at the age of 34, is one of the youngest members of the Tory benches in the upper house, admits to wearing an ear-ring. "Well it's a stud, actually. I don't even think many

people have noticed it and, anyway, years ago the aristocracy always wore them."

## Taking a flyer

IF RICHARD BRANSON ever makes it to the upper house, he will certainly fall foul of the regulations. He has always used his casual dress to cunning effect, and even at the age of 22 had no qualms about meeting the Queen's banker clad in torn jeans.

When Branson's business partner, Nik Powell, saw his colleague just before the meeting with their banks manager he shouted: "Why the f--- are you dressed like that? You know we desperately need the money." Branson replied, coolly, that if he wore a suit they would know he needed the money, and would refuse. But if he was scruffy and talked about his business plans they would lend it to him. He was right.

However, in 1984, as he was about to launch his airline, the bank refused to raise his overdraft to £4 million, an article in next month's *QQ* reports. Branson says: "When I arrived back from the US after a successful first flight, I found my bank manager on my doorstep. He said if I went one penny over our overdraft they would bounce our cheques." Within days Branson had found three banks willing to lend £30 million.

As the US PGA golf tournament ended last night Tom Weiskopf, the former Open golf champion, recalls a conversation with a woman at Muirfield in Scotland, when she mentioned that her father loved golf. "That's nice," said Weiskopf. "What did he do?" "He was the King of England," replied Princess Margaret. "The princess took it pretty well," says Weiskopf in a collection of anecdotes. And then Jack said to Arnie. "Heck, she still tells the story."

هكذا من الأصل





## RESPONDING TO MOSCOW

The Soviet leadership should be taken at its word when it professes enthusiasm for capitalism and democracy, says Norman Lamont, the British Chancellor, on the opposite page. Returning from his first official visit to Moscow as the emissary of the Group of Seven, Mr Lamont is rather less adamant than President Bush about Mr Gorbachev's Pauline conversion: Mr Bush called down God's blessing on it. But his point is that apparent sincerity of intention is not the test that matters.

What matters is whether the Soviet government starts acting in accordance with market and democratic principles; and, more important, whether it entrenches these principles in the Soviet Union's political and economic structure, making them difficult if not impossible to undo. To go on questioning Moscow's motives and searching for treacherous hidden agendas would be "churlish and pointless", says Mr Lamont. In foreign affairs, the West has been taking Mr Gorbachev at his word for several years, and the results have been spectacular: German unification, the liberation of Eastern Europe and the alliance against Iraq. Why not extend the same benefit of the doubt to economic and political reform?

Mr Lamont is right, but one qualification needs to be added to his optimism and some conclusions drawn which so far the G7 has not accepted. The Soviet reforms are still a long way from implementation. Only when the Union Treaty is signed and ratified — and direct elections and property rights instituted — can the West realistically decide how to deal with all levels of government in the Soviet Union, including with those republics which refuse to participate.

If and when the commitment to democracy and markets is finally made, Mr Lamont's own logic will require him to draw some more radical conclusions. Once economic reform begins in earnest, external aid is almost certain to be required to tide the country over a period of intense dislocation as the command economy is abandoned.

A convertible rouble will be one of the most important steps towards a market system but will require huge Western

support. Mr Lamont is probably wrong to suggest that ownership structures and price systems can be reformed before the rouble is made convertible. Large inflows of foreign investment and control of inflation are also unlikely before convertibility is at least on a fixed schedule. The transition to capitalism is replete with such cart-and-horse conundrums, which is why the only way to make progress is through a comprehensive approach, combining privatisation, price reform, convertibility, foreign investment and Western loans in a single package, even if not necessarily in one "big bang".

Preparations for this moment must not be delayed. The third and most practical reservation about the G7's Soviet policy is that it is too reactive. Even before the pre-conditions for the transition have been put in place, the Soviet Union must be readied for full membership of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, Gatt and other international bodies. Bringing the Soviet Union into the international community will naturally affect the pecking order of capitalist nations in institutions such as the IMF. The American Treasury suggested last month that the Soviet Union could not join the IMF for several years because it has just taken the industrial countries two years to settle new voting rights. That is an absurd reason to delay membership, which Mr Lamont should not support.

If the Soviet economy does require Western support, this will be cheaper and more efficient from international institutions than from bilateral loans or grants. The World Bank raises funds in international capital markets after making only small calls on taxpayers. The IMF creates money in the same way as domestic central banks. Their lending costs taxpayers in member countries almost nothing. If a reforming Soviet Union were excluded from these mechanisms, the delay in giving it access to these funds would not be in the interest of Western taxpayers. The Soviet Union should not receive a penny until it stops talking and starts walking down the road to capitalism. But once it does start walking, it should do so as a full member of the IMF.

## ENVIRONMENT AND HOT AIR

In his first speech on the environment as prime minister, John Major declared that a global environmental vision was "no longer a luxury for idealistic dreamers." It was "an essential compass to guide our society". Politicians do say the most awful waffle. Yet no subject of diplomacy is more delicate than the environment, because none so intimately affects the way people live. Too much "vision" and a government will simply say no. The way to make progress is by not telling insecure governments that they must empty their pockets and turn their economies inside out.

To judge from the rhetoric of its secretary-general, Maurice Strong, next June's United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro is heading down just this unproductive path. When officials meet to consider the summit's agenda today in Geneva, Mr Strong will present them with his "action plan" from now until the year 2100. It covers every environmental issue from global warming to toxic waste.

In an interview with *The Times* today, Mr Strong agrees that his Agenda 21 has been criticised as unrealistic, yet insists that "we must create a new realism". But he is being worse than unrealistic in insisting that the industrialised nations commit themselves to environmental aid transfers to the developing world "in the hundred-billion dollars a year category". By playing to the Third World gallery in the worst tradition of international bureaucrats, he is simply sabotaging the whole effort.

Last week in Peking, a meeting of Third World governments denounced environmental management as a Western plot to curb their economic growth. For good measure, they demanded enormous sums as the price for co-operation. Mr Strong is encouraging these countries to treat the environment as an excuse for economic blackmail, reviving the kinds of North-South confrontation which ruined the UN's reputation as a workable forum during the

1970s and much of the 1980s. This is no way to persuade the rich countries, which are responsible for most current pollution, to take the environment seriously, let alone help the poor ones to do so.

International pollution co-operation has so far been fairly successful. The Montreal protocols on protecting the ozone layer by curbing the use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) are a model which should be built on. Initially modest targets, set as recently as 1987, have been tightened in line with scientific evidence. Less rigorous standards have been set for Third World countries and the next generation of CFC producers, led by China and India, will be helped to bypass CFCs. The money on offer, \$200 million, is modest, but far more important is the West's commitment to transfer technology.

Work has begun on further conventions to preserve forests, protect the earth's biological diversity, and contain global warming. The climate convention is in trouble. Twenty-two Western governments, including Britain, have committed themselves to stabilise or reduce emissions of the "greenhouse gas", carbon dioxide. But the US, responsible for 23 per cent of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, refuses to set either targets or timetables. The priority, as Mr Major says, is to get American agreement to "a treaty with teeth" even if the initial targets are modest. This is a serious matter, and a real diplomatic goal.

The "earth summit" in Rio is intended to "extend the rule of law to the global commons." That will only be done if governments accept that their domestic decisions must respect both their own long-term economic interest and that of the world as a whole. In the past, the UN has fared far too many unrealistic targets without regard to means. If Rio takes that direction, governments will be wasting their time. The last thing the earth needs is an overdose of millennial bombast and a flourish of pseudo-decisions.

## ALL TOGETHER, NOW

The Labour party's national executive committee has approved a consultative document suggesting a new sexual equality law that will end the right of private clubs to maintain single sex status. The change would apply equally to the gentlemen's clubs of Pall Mall and to the working men's institutes of County Durham. Perhaps too it will allow men to join the Women's Institute or the Townswomen's Guild.

Three years ago the Equal Opportunities Commission proposed such an amendment to the Sex Discrimination Act of 1975, but until now nobody has been reckless enough to take it up. The act prevents such places of public resort as restaurants, pubs and, for example, El Vino's, a once-eccentric Fleet St drinking den, from refusing to serve women at the bar. But the march of feminism into Clubland has been more tentative.

Women can be entertained at the Garrick, but not in the bar or the main dining room at lunch. The Savile, as an experiment, allowed women to be entertained for lunch under women to be entertained, and the roughly the same restrictions, and the experiment has ended. Women can join the Reform and the Green Room but are not numerous there. The Naval and Military allows women as associate members, provided they are related to full members. Women may also be associate members of

the Fishburn Working Men's club but they may not use the men's bar nor hold office.

Vain excuses are given for these practices: women might hear offensive swear-words, for instance, though surely not at the Garrick or the Reform. But they might more certainly hear them from the Alan Clarke season on BBC2. Some men say they join clubs to get away from women. Some say their clubs cannot afford the extra plumbing. Some even claim that wives prefer husbands to visit single-sex clubs, because there they are not in "bad company".

The borderline between using the law to remove offensive discrimination — and discrimination against women in public houses was offensive — and intruding on the right of free association in private is always hard to draw. Both sexes will continue to find ways of meeting exclusive of each other's company, outside the law if not within it. For Labour to make such activity furtive and open to legal blackmail would be unwise. The way to reform leisure clubs and societies is by social pressure. Many London clubs have become mixed because their economic survival demanded it; others because their members found their exclusivity archaic and shameful. These are walls that will come down without the law playing a part, and quite right too.

## Labour pledges disaster enquiry

From the Shadow Secretary of State for Transport

Sir, The response (letter, August 8) by Mr Edmund Lawson, QC, to my charge that "fancy dancing by lawyers" has prejudged justice "being aired in a public enquiry" into the Marchioness disaster is no way alters my view that the present system governing such matters is a total mess and requires urgent reform. I fully endorse Mr Michael Napier's call, in the same issue, for a full public enquiry.

It is almost two years since the Marchioness disaster in which 51 people died. Publication of the Department of Transport's report is still awaited. The inquiry is still not completed. The only event of any significance has been the acquittal of Captain Henderson of the Bowbelle who was tried twice on very narrow charges that did not require examination of all the surrounding facts of the disaster.

In the King's Cross, Clapham, Zebrugga and Hillsborough disasters, public enquiries to discover the full facts were quickly established and any criminal considerations followed afterwards.

In the case of the Marchioness, the timing of the intervention by the Director of Public Prosecutions, which has delayed the enquiry and inquest with unsuccessful prosecutions and now with the private prosecution is another example of what I called "fancy legal dancing". Certainly the fact that the Bowbelle dredger was involved in a similar collision in 1983, after which I understand an internal departmental enquiry recommended improvements to the communication between the lookout and the bridge, needs to be closely examined. I have been refused a copy of the relevant document, but we need to know if the department acted on this recommendation. This and other issues are certainly matters for wider public examination.

My party is committed to securing a better legal framework for the aftermath of disasters. If I am soon to become secretary of state then I will immediately grant a public enquiry into the case of the Marchioness to prevent any further "fancy legal dancing" — unless Mr Rifkind announces one first, as he should.

Yours,  
JOHN PRESCOTT,  
House of Commons,  
August 9.

## Girl in 'two minds'

From Dr Niall MacKenzie

Sir, I too would be more than interested to know the result of the offer for the judgment made in the case of the 15-year-old discussed by Bernard Levin ("Solomon himself would have wept", August 5). I had the good fortune recently to meet a 15-year-old girl who had been mentally disturbed, who had not been in care, but who had been judged so contrary, so irrational, so potentially dangerous that her parents were advised to involve a psychiatrist in her care.

She had not attended school for six months. But she was "a girl in two minds" who could have given the justice system another fearful choice. It was only through the wit and experience of the school nurse that she was shown to have premenstrual syndrome. She was treated. Two minds became one. She has not given the justice system a "fearful choice".

As a psychiatrist I meet many young women whose lives have been damaged by the effects of the illness — premenstrual syndrome — which once diagnosed can be so well treated, that the women, can return to a life fuller than the one divided between two minds.

Most cordially,  
NIALL MACKENZIE,  
Fig Tree House, 11 Church Street,  
Wiveliscombe, Somerset.

## Sance for the geese?

From Mr Roger Straker

Sir, A Dorset magistrate has decreed that a smallholder must sell his noisy geese and geese following complaints from neighbours (report, August 2) who were living in houses that had not been built when the smallholding started.

Are we now to have silence around our airports as the airlines are forced to sell off their fleets?

Yours faithfully,  
ROGER STRAKER,  
2 Gatehouse Cottages,  
Ropes Lane, Fernhurst,  
Haslemere, Surrey.  
August 5.

## British Library move

From the Chief Executive of The British Library

Sir, The British Library regards readers' needs as a top priority (contra Brian Lake, August 8). By 1996 our new building at St Pancras will house all the essential departments and collections presently distributed throughout London. This will aid interdisciplinary research, speed the delivery service to reading rooms and improve conservation conditions.

Our plans have always recognised the future need for selective outhousing of books, since continued growth of the collections is an essential characteristic of the national library. New technology will allow us to plan future storage needs in a more sensitive way, so that a rapid service to readers can be provided from both internal and external stores.

This fulfils reader priorities, while

## Conservation of energy and use of renewable sources

From Professor Ian Fells

Sir, I doubt if appointing a committee of the great and the good to oversee and encourage renewable energy (report, August 6) is going to achieve a spectacular resurgence in its prospects. Experience in California and Denmark, where 20 years of enthusiasm coupled with subsidy has only succeeded in generating 1 per cent of their electricity needs, should give pause for realistic thought.

What is often forgotten is that renewable energy in the forms of firewood and hydro-electric power between them provide 20 per cent of world energy. Firewood is green-house neutral but, ironically, will be the first fuel to run into acute shortage in Asia and South-East Asia. Hydro power is a massive resource which is seen as benign, although from time to time dams burst killing thousands of people.

In the UK, where we are short of hydro-electric sites and where we burnt our oak forests for fuel 300 years ago, we do seem to be blessed with wind, wave and, best of all, tidal-power potential. But extensive research shows that capturing this energy is engineeringly difficult and, in most cases, expensive. It is extremely difficult to envisage the UK providing as much as 10 per cent of its energy needs by 2020.

On the other hand, an energy efficiency drive, Treasury led with appropriate incentives, could realistically save 10 per cent and probably more of our energy requirements inside three to five years. What is lacking is political will and an energy strategy optimised to make the best use of our resources. Our problem is an absurd belief that somehow the market place will provide reliable cheap energy well into the future, and protect the environment, both at the same time.

Yours faithfully,  
IAN FELLS,  
University of Newcastle upon Tyne,  
Department of Chemical and Process Engineering,  
Merz Court, The University,  
Newcastle upon Tyne.

From Mr Michael Harper  
Sir, Your leader writer's pessimistic assessment ("Renewable scepticism", August 6) that renewable energy

"can do little to relieve global energy scarcity nor to reduce environmental damage" is remarkable for two reasons: it is inaccurate and it represents a 180-degree turn from the position adopted in your leading article of August 24, 1990, when you stated quite rightly that the UK was the best placed in Europe to exploit such energy and that "renewable energy is an exciting prospect that Britain should pursue".

To claim that "renewable energy does not work" is nonsense. In parts of Denmark wind power generates 40 per cent of the electricity annually. Scotland receives 10 per cent of its electricity from hydro-electric dams which are now producing the cheapest electricity in the country. Sweden derives 14 per cent of its energy from "biofuels", organic and waste materials, mostly in the form of wood.

In addition, a government report in May estimated that within 10 years the use of solar power when integrated into the roofs and walls of buildings would be cost-effective when compared to grid electricity.

You conclude that the way forward is to discourage wasteful fuel use. Certainly energy efficiency represents the cornerstone of any sustainable energy policy. But of equal importance is the need to ensure that the energy we do use comes from those sources which damage the environment least.

Though no sources are completely "clean", the development of a diverse range of renewable energy technologies offers the best way forward, both on environmental and strategic grounds.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL HARPER,  
Friends of the Earth,  
26-28 Underwood Street, N1,  
August 7.

From Mr Matthew Taylor, MP for Truro (Liberal Democrat)

Sir, Your editorial is right on three counts where the government is wrong.

First, the single most important contribution to the environment at this moment is energy conservation; it is practical, quick, and can actually help those on low incomes (especially if they are helped first

drought it has not filled up in the water either.

The authorities have handed abstraction licences to farmers, to fishing ponds, sewage works, and to an intensive turkey farm for carrying away the slurry. Now the farmers have made reservoirs at the side of the stream for irrigation which takes place all summer. The fish ponds, too, are kept full. Who can blame these people? They have their licences.

The stream is being destroyed and the authorities allow it. We are left with a dry stream, no fish, no frogs, no meadows or pastures, and tap water has to be carried to livestock. God preserve the NRA.

Yours sincerely,  
JUNE BRITTON,  
Water Lane House,  
Mundesley, Norwich, Norfolk.

From Mr Marion Aptroot  
Sir, Sam Goldsmith in his tribute to the late Isaac Bashevis Singer (August 7) states that Yiddish is "coming to an end as a living language since no language can survive without schools teaching it and homes speaking it". However, Yiddish continues to be the first language in Hasidic circles where it is used at home as well as in school. It can be heard on the streets of New York, Jerusalem, Paris and Antwerp, as well as in London: her Majesty's Inspectorate boasts an inspector for Yiddish schools.

Yiddish is also being taught in state schools in Israel, and will shortly be reintroduced in a number of state schools in the Soviet Union. Furthermore, universities in most European countries, the United States, Canada, Israel and Japan offer courses in Yiddish.

In England, Yiddish is taught at London University at undergraduate level and at Oxford University at all levels. The Oxford summer programme celebrates its tenth anniversary this month. Seminars and lectures in Yiddish studies at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew Studies are generally presented in Yiddish and an academic journal, *Oxford Yiddish*, written entirely in Yiddish, was launched in 1990.

Yiddish seems to be quite a lively moribund.

Yours faithfully,  
MARION APTRoot (Research fellow in Yiddish studies),  
Queen Mary and Westfield College,  
Mile End Road, E1,  
August 8.

## Rank ignorance

From the Venerable Michael Perry, Archdeacon of Durham

Sir, The amusement caused to archdeacons by their correspondence, computerised or not, is at least as great as that of rear-admirals (letters, August 2, 7 and 8).

My collection of envelopes includes ones addressed to Ben M. Perry, M. van Perry, V. M. Perry, Esq., The M. Perry and the Reverend M. Perry; addresses have included 7 The Cottage, 7 The College, and 7 The Carriage; and my wife has one addressed to the Venerable Margaret Perry.

Yours sincerely,  
MICHAEL PERRY,  
7 The College, Durham.

From Mr Anthony Martin

Sir, The banks' computers are not immune from rank ignorance. I recently received a letter from mine with "Private and Confidential" on the envelope. It began "Dear Private Confidential".

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY MARTIN,  
Whitstone House,  
Whitstone, Exeter, Devon.

From Sir John Herberg, KCB

Sir, My best was an envelope addressed to Mr S. J. H. K. C. Bee. I could hardly wait to extract the letter. Sure enough, it began "Dear Mr Bee".

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN HERBERG,  
Maryland Ledgers Meadow,  
Cuckfield,  
Haywards Heath, West Sussex,  
August 7.

## Water shortage

From Mrs June Britton

Sir, It is welcome news to read your report and leading article, "Not to be watered down" (August 5), that the National Rivers Authority is starting to tackle the sorry state of many southern chalk streams whose flow and water level have been reduced by over-abstraction of ground water, often by farmers.

Our property in Norfolk has such a stream, the River Mun, it has ceased to run in the lower reaches. In 1956 when we came here the stream was clear with gravel bottom. In winter it was over two feet deep. In the early Seventies it began to get shallower in the summers. Over the years, the stream emptied in the summer. In the past two years of

## Travel costs

From Professor L. J. Symons

Sir, Your editorial "Cleaner car taxes", July 31, makes some excellent points regarding taxes and duties on private cars, including the environmental aspects of replacing road tax by higher petrol taxes. This would certainly benefit motorists who try to treat the car as their means of transport of last resort.

An important point, however, is that higher petrol prices would bear most heavily on those who live in the less densely populated parts of Britain. The residents of, for example, mid-Wales or the Highlands of Scotland commonly have to travel 50 to 60 miles to visit a hospital or to purchase most goods other than food and some minor domestic items. Increased petrol prices would also bear heavily on those who have

to use a car for travel to work. These problems would be less acute if we were blessed with an adequate transport service, and before major changes are introduced, which might add to the expenses of the already disadvantaged classes, we need a return to serious planning for public transport.

Furthermore, tinkering with existing taxes will not do much to alter the horrors of the M25 on an ever morning, or the dangers on the M6 on any day of the year. Road pricing, which can be varied by time and area, may be a way forward, and requires serious attention.

Yours faithfully,  
LESLIE SYMONS,  
University College, Swansea,  
Department of Geography,  
Singleton Park,  
Swansea, West Glamorgan,  
August 2.

## Tourism and Wales

From the Chairman of the British Tourist Authority

Sir, You quote Mr Prys Edwards, chairman of the Wales Tourist Board (report, August 3), as saying: "It is ridiculous that only the British Tourist Authority (BTA) can promote Wales abroad while the English and Scottish boards market themselves direct".

Mr Edwards, a member of the BTA board, is aware that the BTA works in close partnership with the national boards and has done a great deal for Wales. A united effort is

needed to make a genuine impact in overseas markets. The English Tourist Board understands and accepts this. A recent survey commissioned by the Wales Tourist Board concluded that Wales was also well served by this arrangement. The Wales Tourist Board would surely do better to address itself to the real problem, which is the domestic market.

Yours faithfully,  
WILLIAM DAVIS, Chairman,  
British Tourist Authority  
and English Tourist Board,  
24 Grosvenor Gardens, SW1,  
August 5.

still making economic sense, even if it fails to meet the desire of some that everything and for ever should be on one site.

On the question of reader seats, working practices have changed significantly and substantial numbers of people now prefer to have material delivered to them at their own place of work. The British Library has made great strides towards providing the technology to satisfy these new kinds of demand.

We believe that the number of reader places will be adequate to meet immediate needs. That being said, however, our experience suggests that demand for access to the world's greatest research library will continue to grow and our earlier plans to provide additional seating

in later extensions of the building may well be justified. The financial constraints imposed upon us dictate the present limitations.

Lastly, as far as conservation is concerned, although most post-1850 books are on worse paper than earlier material, there is more to books than paper. All books and manuscripts, deteriorate under adverse conditions, such as those at Bloomsbury, where the temperature has reached 82°F and the relative humidity is far too high. The walls of some stacks are wet with condensation and acid London grime has even penetrated the glass-fronted cases of the King's Library. The new building is sorely needed.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN LANG,  
Chief Executive,  
The British Library,  
96 Euston Road,  
St Pancras, NW1,  
August 8.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).



## OBITUARIES

of the tubers have proved difficult to identify by other means. Dr. Hather said, and it may have been misidentified as wood charcoal in the past. The specimens come from unquestionably prehistoric contexts, with artefacts such as pearl shell fishhooks and basalt adzes [an axe-like tool?], Professor Kirih said. Dates of AD988-1155 and 1162-1280 have been obtained, as well as later dates in the 14th and 15th centuries. These "leave no doubt as to the presence of this cultigen" although the date of its initial introduction remains unknown.

Easter Island and Hawaii were settled by AD400, and the Marquesas half a millennium before that, so that contact with the Pacific coast of South America could have been established during the early first millennium AD. So far there is no evidence from the Americas of transpacific contact, although the wide dispersal of barcloth technology on both sides of the Pacific Ocean has long aroused scholarly suspicion.

What is widely accepted is that Dr Thor Heyerdahl's Kon-Tiki theory, that Amerindians sailed west across the Pacific from Peru, is incorrect: the native Americans were not great voyagers, sticking to coastal routes, while the pre-historic Polynesians navigated successfully across wide expanses of ocean out of sight of







## Blurred vision in the stalls



Sardonic self-absorption: Alan Rickman with an audience cut-out

anything else very coherent. At the beginning, there are photos and sounds of students beating with police. At the end, the cinema's back wall collapses to reveal a cherry tree in blossom while pictures of peacock wings appear on the walls, and young people pour onstage in a triumphant shouting group. Experts on Japanese culture will no doubt be able to construe what this implies about idealism, student radicalism and other such subjects. It seemed more excuse for directorial display.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

## Tango at the End of Winter King's, Edinburgh

## EDINBURGH A LEADING FESTIVAL

So his wife, ever active on his behalf, manipulates a young actress into having what she hopes will be a bracing, tonic affair with him. Unluckily, he falls in love with the girl, unable to cope with so authentic a passion, abandons the stage and returns to his home town, where he behaves in an increasingly crazed, erratic way. Thereupon his wife, self-sacrificial as ever, forges letters from him imploring the actress to come to restore his spirits. Once again she obeys, but with even more cataclysmic results than before.

Quite a promising plot, you may well agree. All it needs is a writer with a serious interest in emotional politics. Time-warp Henry James to 1991, jet Harold Pinter to Japan, shut them up together in the Tokyo Hilton, and who knows what dark, intestinal secrets their collaboration might not produce? But the author is Kunio Shimizu, whose capacity for psychological insight would seem to be modest, especially where women are concerned. Indeed, it is not clear from Peter Barnes's adaptation of his *Tango* if he has any great talent beyond the obvious one to provide an opportunity for Yukio Ninagawa to

concoct striking visual effects, introduce snatches of moody music, and generally create a strange atmosphere. All this the Japanese director successfully does; and with a strong English-speaking cast, too. In recent years Edinburgh has seen his company in *Macbeth* and *The Tempest*. This time, our very own Alan Rickman and Suzanne Bertish are among those roaming the derelict cinema in which the play eccentrically occurs. Tiers of battered grey seats rise between the cracked grey-and-green walls. From time to time the projectionist, a nostalgic type, fills them with cardboard cut-outs of smiling young figures. The wind flaps at the torn coverings that substitute for doors. The imagination does not need a lot of stretching to accept the place as a suitable haunt for an ageing actor with a growing reality problem.

Anyway, Rickman reels about, filling the stage with his sardonic self-absorption. One moment, he is imaginatively revisiting a boyhood whose main event seems to have been the theft of a stuffed peacock. The next he is making meaningful remarks about role-playing, or glumly noting the gulf between his own character and those he once portrayed onstage, prime among them a revolutionary hero who goes to his death to the sound of the tango. Throughout, he displays symptoms of his wonky mental state, mainly by mistaking his wife for his dead sister; a slip that Bertish, exuding grim conjugal patience, does not appreciate.

Yet what does all this add up to? Not a fully realised protagonist, nor a plausible central relationship, nor a stimulating Farandol debate, nor

tion that Ravel discovered in *Ma mère l'oye* and *L'enfant et les sortilèges*. The textures and harmonies, often glistening and gauzy, are superlative, supporting a vocal line of warm and coaxing but serious sensuousness. Solveig Kringlebotn, a young Norwegian apparently discovered by Lutoslawski after he had written the piece, proved indeed an ideal artist for music requiring a technique as flawless as his own. She will surely be much in demand for repeat performances of work which will be wanted for children's concerts the world over.

More superb singing followed the next night in Karita Mattila's performance with the Finnish Radio Symphony under Jukka-Pekka Saraste, when she gave a dramatic display of sustained power, radiance and reach in Sibelius's *Lemminkäinen* and in his declamatory, solitary autumn-evening

song *Hoskwall*. The orchestra, not surprisingly, seemed more tuned in to Sibelius than to Schumann and Mahler, or it may just be that it sounded best when giving way to its splendid brass and woodwind. Magnus Lindberg's *Kinetiks* did that with a will. Lindberg made his name a few years ago with an orchestral giant, *Kraft*, and this successor is similarly volcanic, magnificently written and daring in some of its gestures. It is also more monolithic, with the busy orchestral sound often fused into alloy by a synthesizer, and with an emphasis on fashionable wide-spectrum harmonic process that prevents the variety of incident and sheer edge-of-seat immanence which one through *Kraft*. If that makes *Kinetiks* less exciting, Lindberg's power over the orchestra remains mightily impressive.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

## BBC SO/Lutoslawski Finnish Radio SO/Saraste Albert Hall/Radio 3

WITOLD Lutoslawski, back at the Proms to conduct two of his pieces, is the living embodiment of an abiding paradox in 20th century music: iconoclasm coupled with gentility, the urge to break and remake controlled by a passion for precision. His *Cello Concerto* of 1970, given a fiercely fine performance here by Natalia Gutman, is a case in point. Its level of tension is immediately high and eventually explosive, but there is no wasted energy, no unconsidered detail.

The parallel with Bartók, whose *Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta* came afterwards, has often been invoked, but one might think too

Nevertheless it was easy to see why Aaron's solo album *Warm Your Heart* is doing better business in America than did the Nevilles' most recent offering *Brother's Keeper*, released last year. For when this man with the bouncer's physique, roddie's dress sense and angelic wobble of a voice stepped forward for his solo set, the performance was suddenly pulled into sharper focus. The fighting, polyrhythmic free-for-all subsided as his pure falsetto cut through the mix with emotive power. He sang his trademark hit "Tell It Like It Is", "Feels Like Rain", and, later, a show-stopping "With God on Our Side".

The energetic dancing and right-on rapping of brother Cyril on "Jah Love" and the several numbers which featured Art in the lead did not have such a special resonance, but there was some spectacular instrumental sparring between saxophone and guitar during "Yellow Moon" which led on to a sprightly climax of "Brother Jake" and "Mardi Gras Mambo".

The encores came a bit of a cabaret with a corny version of Bob Marley's "One Love" and Aaron's divine tone failing to lift "Amazing Grace" and "Rivers of Babylon" from the mire of cliché.

DAVID SINCLAIR

## The Neville Brothers Brixton Academy

THE Neville Brothers are one of those bands for whom touring has become the habit of a lifetime rather than a special occasion. Like the New Orleans Mardi Gras from which they and their music are descended, they always turn up at a certain time of year, with or without an album to plug. Their audience greets them with the usual enthusiasm, but there is a growing tendency for their performance to become rather staid. With the band's recording activities put on hold while singer Aaron Neville consolidates his new-found celebrity in the wake of his Grammy award-winning duet with Linda Ronstadt, "Don't Know Much", the show's emphasis was on the tried and tested. Joined by their regular backing corps of drums, bass and guitar, the four brothers - keyboard player and vocalist Cyril, saxophonist Charles, and Aaron - turned on the shuffling funk synopses, neo-gospel harmonies and voodoo-soul melodies with assured ease.

## Outside Life Man in the Moon, Chelsea

THE prisoner misses his wife, and she him. Their daughter (nursed and of unknown age, probably about ten) misses her dad, and he her. He also misses baby Michael, born after Dad was jailed for failing an insurance claim; this is because Mum cannot bring herself to take the babe with her on visiting days, even though he pleads with her, in letter after letter, to do so. He must see his son, he says, but no. Sometimes she forgets to bring his chocolate, too.

Because the couple are inarticulate in each other's presence - "How are you?" "Fine. How are you?" - the author, Trisha Lee, gives them lots to say on their own. This is less of a burden for Steve Knowles playing Martin, whose ongoing wish is to say what he really feels when next they meet. His feelings are restricted to such statements as "I hate it here" and "I must see my son," and "Six months to go," but they are at least consistent with one another and the character coheres. Also he is lucky enough to portray a cluster of the television characters his wife imagines

while channel-hopping, splicing together an ad for a carpet cleaner, *Blue Peter*, *Neighbours* and a dire British Thriller film. This scene is entertaining if brief and made doubly welcome by the dull writing elsewhere.

Domna Smiley bears the greater weight of the monologues: some express her thoughts directly "I hate it here," "I can't take baby Michael," - but much of the time she is popping into the imagined thoughts of other people. These are all exaggeratedly fierce and accusatory, and, yes, we see she is like a child imagining parental reproof from all quarters; but the author wants the character to be jolily self-conscious as she retreats into the womb of her kitchen, afraid of the knock at the door yet acting out a postwoman's plodding walk, booming voice and implacable curiosity. The accumulating details tell surprisingly little about this character. Thoughts, feelings and fears are so narrowly explicit, that no space is left to hint at what might not be spoken - if anything. The author has created dull characters and Vivienne Cottrill's direction, though accomplished in other shows at this theatre, is here as uninspired as her material.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Arts features, page 11

## 16 REVIEWS

**NEW RELEASES**

**RECOLLECTIONS OF THE YELLOW HOUSE** (18): Dostoevsky meets Portuguese surrealism in João César Monteiro's slow, hypnotic oddity. Featuring the director as a seamy, bickering nonconformist. **Rentor** (071-837 8402)

**RETURN TO THE BLUE LABOON** (12): Teenage model Milla Jovovich and rock band Brian Krause discover the joys of adolescence on a Pacific Island. Visceral, predictable sequel to the 1990 Brooke Shields epic. **Cannons** (071-352 5038)

**TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES II: THE SECRET OF THE OOZE** (PG): Live-action Turtles fighting evil in New York, though with less violent frenzy than before. Action-packed for youngsters; parents may be bored. **Rentor** (071-352 5038)

**HEY, KITTEN!** (12): Agony Aunt (Kathleen Marshall) seeks out her five children in Italy. Lively, letterboxed drama from the Cinema Paradiso director Giuseppe Tornatore. **Cannon** (071-486 8865)

**HENRY: PORTRAIT OF A SERIAL KILLER** (18): Devastating, fly-on-the-wall study of human depravity in Chicago. **Cannon** (071-486 8865)

**HUDSON HAWK** (15): Cal-bugler Bruce Willis gets drawn into a plan to conquer the world. Profane, demented action-comedy with a low IQ director. **Cannon** (071-486 8865)

**ALICE** (12): Woody Allen's comic fantasy about a Manhattan wife in crisis. Loose and funny, but with a marvellous performance from Mia Farrow. **Odeon** (071-486 8865)

**BACKDRAFT** (15): Overblown fire-fighting epic with over-the-top stunts and gaudy characters. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

**ANGELS STILL FALLING** (18): Atmosphere trip through the life of Jack Kerouac, poet and world-class drunk. Good acting, set and jazz. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

**THE BOYS FROM SYRACUSE** (18): Rodgers and Hart musical based on the Comedians of Error. Excellent played with tab costumes. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

**THE CARETAKER** (18): David Pountney in a classic fustle between a harridan and two brothers. Comedy. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

**CARMEN JONES** (18): Classic production of the Hammer/BBC off-black musical, pitched with pizzazz. **Odeon** (071-486 8865)

**DANCING AT LUGHANASHA** (18): Brian Friel's Award-winning memory play set in 1930s Donegal. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

**DICKENS WOMEN** (18): Spirited, satirical tour of the lady and the gossamer by Helen Hughes. **Duke of York's** (071-486 8865)

**DO NOT DRESS FOR DINNER** (18): Simon Cadell in average, French-bourgeois farce. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

**EDWARD II** (18): Simon Russell Beale and Ciarán Hinds outstanding as the gay king and his venomous enemy. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

**JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT** (18): Jason Donovan sports a golden wig for his gaudy, breathy revival. **Palladium** (071-486 8865)

**BBC PROMS**: The world premiere of Martin Butler's *O Rio* (The River) is the

**CINEMA GUIDE**

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated by the symbol #) on release across the country.

**Cameras** Baker Street (071-435 9772) **Filmfare** Road (071-435 9772) **Empire** (071-435 9772) **Notting Hill** (071-435 9772) **Screen on the Green** (071-435 9772) **Whitelys** (071-435 9772)

**EDWARD SCISSORHANDS** (PG): Tim Burton's capricious fantasy about a boy with scissors for hands all large in London. **Whitelys** (071-435 9772)

**EVERYBODY'S FINE** (12): Agony Aunt (Kathleen Marshall) seeks out her five children in Italy. Lively, letterboxed drama from the Cinema Paradiso director Giuseppe Tornatore. **Cannon** (071-486 8865)

**HENRY: PORTRAIT OF A SERIAL KILLER** (18): Devastating, fly-on-the-wall study of human depravity in Chicago. **Cannon** (071-486 8865)

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**THEATRE GUIDE**

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London. House full, returns only. Some seats available. Seats at all prices.

**KING LEAR**: Paraphrase production by Nicholas Hytner with John Wood in superb voice. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

**THE LADY FROM THE SEA**: Kathryn Pogson returns and performs in a new production of a woman's right to choose her own man. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

**NANCY MULLIGAN**: Ian McKellen as a young figure in Eduardo de Filippo's night of the living dead. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

**THE PHILANTHROPIST**: Capricious production of the Hammer/BBC off-black musical, pitched with pizzazz. **Odeon** (071-486 8865)

**DICKENS WOMEN**: Spirited, satirical tour of the lady and the gossamer by Helen Hughes. **Duke of York's** (071-486 8865)

**DO NOT DRESS FOR DINNER**: Simon Cadell in average, French-bourgeois farce. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

**EDWARD II**: Simon Russell Beale and Ciarán Hinds outstanding as the gay king and his venomous enemy. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

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**TODAY'S EVENTS**

most eye-catching item in tonight's programme. The BBC commission is followed by a new production of the composer's *Birth* (Playhouse, 7pm). Across in the Upper Hall, soprano Margaret Price sings a Romantic programme of Schubert and Schumann (8pm). Tonight's leading theatrical events from the London festival include *Johnny's* (7pm), the Bruce Springsteen play by R.S. Gail - a drama about Robert the Bruce written soon after the second world war - presented by the Brunton Theatre Company (8.15pm). *The Minstrel and the Sheriff*, another quarter-century Scottish play about Sir Walter Scott, is a solo performance by Robert Paterson (Playhouse, 7.30pm). See also *Verde* and *Vision*, right. **Playhouse**, Greenpeace Place/Upper Hall, Lofton Road/Empley Theatre, Newquay, Cornwall. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

**THE ROSE TATTOO**: Joe Walters (hoping to return today after three years in Tennessee Williams' *Summer of '42*) in a new production of the play. **Starline** (071-486 8865)

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## WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 18

DÉBAT

(a) A poetic contest, in which some question of morality, politics or love was discussed, for instance in Villon. Early examples occur in Aristophanes, Theocritus, and Virgil.

CYBERPUNK

(a) A sub-species of science fiction, a conflation of cybernetics and punk. Cyberpunk stories are set in the near future, and depend on contemporary technological and cultural references. Characters are punks, space Racists, computer jockeys.

DROLLES

(a) Also known as droll-humours, brief farces and comic scenes, adapted from plays or merely improvised and invented by actors, and traditionally presented in pairs during the Commedia dell'arte.

APORIA

(b) An "impossible path," used in the theory of deconstruction to indicate a kind of impasse between rhetoric and thought. It is the gap between what a text means to say and what it is constrained to mean. Cf. Derrida's *différance*.

## ENTERTAINMENTS

## OPERA &amp; BALLET

COUSINS (071-435 9772) 071-435 9772

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA

NEW SEASON OPENS SAT 7.00

ALSO COUSINS

WEDNESDAY 7.00

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO

GLYNEDOURNE FESTIVAL

The London Festival Proms

TUESDAY 7.00

THE TROVATORE

SAT 7.00

THE TROVATORE

SAT 7.00

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## THEATRES

ADEPHI (071-435 9772) 071-435 9772

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## WINNING MOVIE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Today's problem is a

composition by R. Nascimben

from 1988. White is to play

and mate in three moves. This

composition is exceptionally

difficult.

1. Nc3

2. Nf3

3. Nf3

4. Nf3

5. Nf3

6. Nf3

7. Nf3

8. Nf3

9. Nf3

10. Nf3

11. Nf3

12. Nf3

13. Nf3

14. Nf3

15. Nf3

16. Nf3

17. Nf3

18. Nf3

19. Nf3

20. Nf3

21. Nf3

22. Nf3

23. Nf3

## PETER HALL COMPANY PLAYHOUSE

JULIE WALTERS

"THE PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR"

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

The Rose Tattoo

LAST 2 WEEKS

MUST END 24 AUGUST

THEATRE GROUP PLAYHOUSE

RATONOFF (071-435 9772) 071-435 9772

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## THE WOMAN IN BLACK

JOSEPH &amp; THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

THE WOMAN IN BLACK

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THE WOMAN IN BLACK

JOSEPH &amp; THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCO



**CHANNEL A**

#### 6.45 Open University: Urban Development – The Phoenix Initiative

6.00 TV-am

**5.00 The Channel Four Daily**

● **00.00 Viva Elvis!** ● **CHOICE:** That excellent book the *Panic! Encyclopedia* has as good a summary as any of Elvis Presley 'In the end as in the beginning, he was the perfect fusion of voice, autobiography, commodity opportunity, and national mood.' The entry further speculates that there is evidence of a more primitive archetype that Presley was aware of and parodied (Aztec sun symbols on his costumes), and on this he rests the leading appeal and the cult of mutants grown up since his death. Only a few weeks after he died, I saw one of these shows – a more than passable pastiche of the famous comeback concert – and remember a Southern marston behind me declare, 'Ah know Elvis is dead, but ah just don't believe it.' Jonathan Ross's exploration of the phenomenon, 14 years on, demonstrates that necrophilia is alive and well and practised, for the most part, by men who opt for the overwrought, localised, Presley-like carers.

● **11.25 Down Under II Pigs in a Suit.** Fv. Animation by Peter Callas

● **11.25 Down Under: State of Shock.**

● **CHOICE:** David Bradbury, Australia's leading political documentary maker, made this study of Aborigine life after a series of films set in South America, one of which was nominated for an Academy award. The fate of the Aborigine has been similar to that of the American Indian: dispossession, confinement, loss of religion and language, a decline in self-esteem, alcohol and drugs, and much more. The film is a study of the culture, schizophrenia, the murder rate for black Australia is nearly 30 times that of white Australia. Bradbury's subject is Alwyn Peters, who served a 26-month prison sentence for killing a young woman in a drunken argument, a crime that he can't remember. Blurred focus is a feature of the narrative, hardly surprising as one of its main subjects is the extreme abuse of alcohol, which, according to the film's director, is the main agent in what amounts to an act of passive genocide.

● **12.30-01.00 Down Under: The Cellist.** Award-winning fictional short.

● **11.00 The Passion of Remembrance.** Drama reflecting the black experience in Britain (t. Ends at 2.30)

## TV VARIATIONS

**Special Tour 4.30** *Galettta World Sport*  
**Special 5.00** *USA Wrestling 6.00* *Go! 7.00*  
**Dublin Home Show Highlights 8.00** *Fight Night*  
**11.00** *The Family 12.00* *Dr. O'Connell 12.30*  
**Plus** *European Golf Tour 11.00* *FIA World Rally Championships*

**LIFE CHANNELS**

• **Wia the Azura satellite.**  
**10.00am** *The Great American Gameshow*  
**11.15** *Coffee Break 11.20* *Everyday Workout*  
**11.50** *The Family 12.00* *Dr. O'Connell 12.30*  
**1.00pm** *Survivor 1.05* *What's Cooking 1.10*  
**2.40pm** for *Tomorrow 1.40* *The Edge of Night 2.05* *Detective Court 2.20* *It's Your Lifestyle 2.40* *The Tom Ewell Show 3.10* *Murder at the Wedding 4.00* *The Ten Brass 4.10* *Mathematics 4.40* *The Great American Gameshow 5.00* *The Sale-A-Vision Show 5.30* *Programme 6.00* *Close 10.00* *The Sale-A-Vision Show 10.30* *Programme 12.00* *Satellite Jukebox*

**MTV**

• **Wia the Azura satellite.**  
**Twenty-four hours** of rock and pop

**RADIO 3**

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Walk on the wild side: Sir John Johnson, chairman of the Countryside Commission, left, tackles the problems of a quiet country stroll with his rambling companions

## Ramblers choose their pedestrian battlefield

By JOHN YOUNG

SHORTLY after 10am yesterday, Sir John Johnson, chairman of the Countryside Commission, and John Trevelyan, deputy director of the Ramblers' Association, set off to walk across a large field of wheat near Amersham, in Buckinghamshire. It was nothing more adventurous than the start of a pleasant Sunday morning stroll in the Chilterns. But Mr Trevelyan was concerned to show Sir John and the rest of us some of the little local difficulties that face those wanting to use the nation's

footpaths for harmless and healthy exercise. Today the Ramblers are to launch a new campaign to force landowners, farmers and local authorities to fulfil their statutory duty to ensure that all public rights of way are adequately sign-posted, free of obstructions, with a clear walkable route across ploughed fields and crops, and with well maintained stiles and footbridges. It intends to appoint its own full-time lawyer to bring actions against farmers and land owners who flout the law, and to goad

dilatory councils into taking action. The obstructions we encountered yesterday were none too serious but the route was certainly not well maintained or signposted. The "path" across the wheat field was a narrow, single file indentation strewn with wild oats, and in the woodland on the far side were notices stating "reserved rights: no public access". People were also too easily deterred by such notices, Sir John pointed out. The first signpost we came to was rusted, all but illegible and likely to fall down at any time. Beyond it the path was heavily overgrown and forced to detour round a large quarry. Later it crossed a field of desiccated oilseed rape and a month or so ago would have been all but impassable.

Stiles were well maintained, but the biggest deterrent was the absence of signposts and way marks to guide those unfamiliar with the route. It was all the more cheering to find one spot owned by the Woodland Trust, with a notice saying "Visitors are welcome to walk in this wood."

### TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

Young fogies: What is the thread that links a Woolworth's navy blue coat with red velvet collar and muff for toddlers, price £25.99 in the stores from this month, and a £4,000 christening set made by hand on a remote Shetland island out of one-ply cashmere? The answer, says Liz Smith, is a nostalgic appeal strong enough to keep alive a flourishing business in classic clothes for the youngest consumers

Plus: "Hollywood did not set out to conquer the world: there was just no way of stopping it" — David Robinson continues his assessment of the state of British cinema

## Search for crew after ship sinks

Continued from page 1

three other men from Brixham, Dover coastguards, who were co-ordinating the operation, refused to comment on reports that Ocean Hound might have been in collision with a much larger vessel before she went down. Eric Musson, a station officer at Dover, said: "Obviously this is a very busy shipping lane and there were patches of dense fog in the area at the time. But it is much too early to start theorising."

As many as 10 other vessels, including cross-Channel ferries and cargo boats were thought to be within a five mile radius of Ocean Hound when she sank in about 30 metres of water. No "mayday" signal was received. Coastguards were first alerted after a satellite picked up signals from an emergency distress beacon.

Last night lifeboats from Dover and Margate were still searching for survivors. Two helicopters, one from RAF Manston, the other provided by the Belgian Navy, were also involved in the operation, and Royal Navy divers from Portsmouth were on standby.

## Job hunt gets harder

Continued from page 1

are now down by 45 per cent year-on-year to 102,600, seasonally adjusted. At the same time, unemployment has been rising sharply, up on the same basis by 42 per cent. According to the monthly analysis by The Times of data held on employment department computers, the ratio of the unemployed to vacancies is now 22:1. This is an increase of 144 per cent on the figure a year ago. In June 1990, the ratio was 9:1, nine people chasing every vacancy. The current ratio of 22:1 masks large regional differences. In London, the problem is especially sharp, with

48 unemployed people chasing each notified vacancy. The severity of the recession in southeast England is indicated by the fact that whereas a year ago the number of unemployed chasing each vacancy was highest in Northern Ireland, at 18, while in London it was only ten, just above average, the position is now reversed, with Northern Ireland just above average, and London heading the table. Across southeast England, where recession bit first, 28 people are chasing every job. In Yorkshire and Humberside, 29 are after every job.

Economic View, page 21

Seasonally adjusted				
Region	Job-vacancy ratio	Unemployment change %	Unemployment change %	
S East	7	28	-54	+80
Gr London	10	48	-56	+120
E Anglia	6	21	-53	+51
S West	6	23	-52	+72
W Midlands	9	27	-48	+48
E Midlands	22	34	-45	+48
York & H'ds	12	29	-42	+34
N West	11	21	-37	+25
North	10	24	-33	+20
Wales	6	17	-48	+36
Scotland	9	13	-22	+11
E Scotland	8	25	-51	+45
N Ireland	16	23	-17	+3
UK	9	22	-45	+42

## Tramps in the champs annoy Paris

FOR those tourists determined to experience the romance of Paris on a shoestring budget, the city is proving somewhat less than hospitable this summer.

The proliferation of caravans and mobile homes around some of the city's most famous tourist attractions has incurred the wrath of Mayor Jacques Chirac. "Paris is currently presenting a deplorable image of its most prestigious landmarks," M. Chirac wrote in a letter he dispatched to police headquarters this week demanding firm action against the illegal campers.

In a city where to stray from the gravel path on to any but a few of the well manicured lawns in the public gardens is to draw a stern rebuke from a whistle-blowing park attendant, one can understand the mayor's horror at the hundreds of tourists who have moved en masse on to the lawns of the Champ de Mars at the foot of the Eiffel Tower.

Setting up makeshift camps with their sleeping bags, the tourists, many of whom are from eastern Europe, have taken advantage of the recent soaring temperatures and balmy evenings to enjoy a free view of Paris's most famous landmark to rival that of the city's most expensive hotels.

Since the receipt of M Chirac's letter at the prefecture, police have been visibly stepping up their efforts to dislodge the campers, who faced a rude awakening on Tuesday night when the *flics* produced a water cannon. Unable to get their equipment to work properly, this scare tactic proved to have a limited effect as a deterrent for the campers.

By the weekend, however, the storms were over, the temperatures were up and the sun was back, along, of course, with the campers.

Standing in the Place de la Concorde on Saturday I watched more coaches with Eastern European number plates piling into the available parking spots. For some, however, it was to be a brief visit.

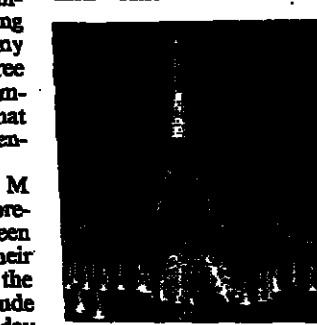
A young woman I spoke to who had just arrived from Poland was exhausted after 22 hours on the road. An employee of a



Polish tour company which also takes visitors to Germany and Belgium, she and her 30 colleagues were the lucky recipients of a free trip to Paris — a special bonus from their company. Leaving on Friday evening they had to be back at work this morning and so had only half a day to spend in Paris before setting off again for Warsaw. She and her friends were planning to spend Saturday evening on the town.

For the moment, however, perusing gently in the afternoon sun, the view of the Eiffel Tower and the grandeur of the Place de la Concorde appeared to leave her non-plussed. Her one wish, she said, was for a hot shower.

It is not hard to sympathise with the tourists, especially the "Easies" who have arrived on one of the many wheezing and somewhat utilitarian coaches parked next to their luxurious counter-



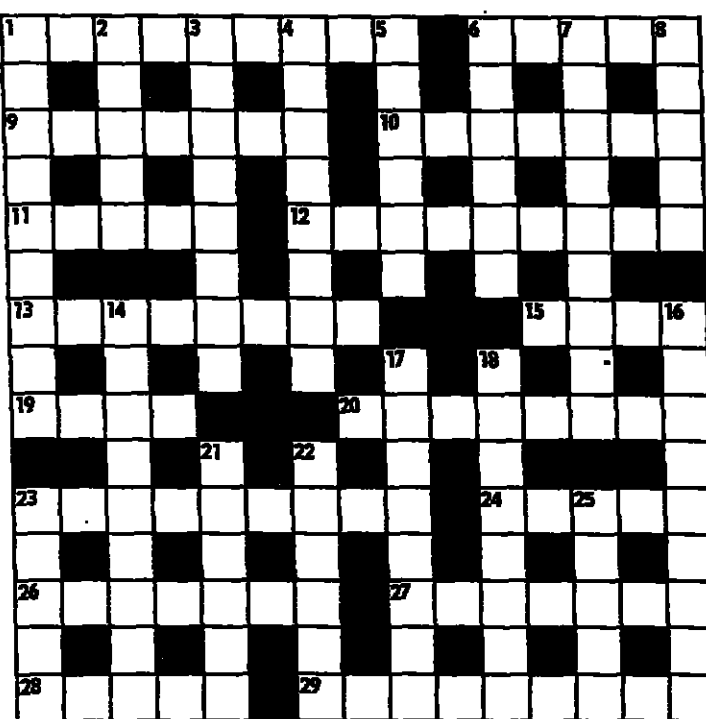
parts around the city. Starry-eyed, their dreams of seeing the city of light finally realised, many are trying to eke out budgets of less than £40 for a two-week stay. Hotels and restaurants are out of the question.

As one young man from Czechoslovakia interviewed in *Le Monde* said: "We came to see the city. We are saving all our money for the museums."

The weather, however, seems to have changed its allegiance. A heavy downpour undoubtedly proved most successful in ridding the Champ de Mars of the illegal campers than the police and their malfunctioning water cannon.

SUSAN BELL

### THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,682



- ACROSS**
- Rock teacher — he's a real pain (9).
  - The old buffoon putting a worker in charge (5).
  - Seethe about someone unused to driving faster (7).
  - Fish photographer? (7).
  - Lighting up is a punishable offence! (5).
  - The council having business met, time being made for this (9).
  - Found in a very bad state (4).
  - Flat meat pie (4).
  - Forms or settles (8).
  - Producing such fruit presents the environmentalist with a challenge (9).
  - One dandered went ahead but accomplished nothing (5).
- DOWN**
- Will set up 19, not being heartless (9).
  - The tracks of birds (5).
  - Swiss place where many people get in awfully late (8).
  - He's responsible for the water supply off and on (8).
  - Descriptive summary about runners-up (6).
  - A serving man will be in trouble when slow (6).
  - Court officials find two ways to split gratuities (9).
  - Ring left out for an enchantress (5).
  - Clement, showing some irascibility, took the fare (9).
  - A home vandalised — dire scene! (9).
  - Predict elevation of count yet again (8).
  - Point to a man of the type to be a runner (8).
  - Turn up in green (6).
  - It could be a mother and father split (6).
  - Equipment stand (3-2).
  - Study is to be made of renal failure (5).

### PARKER DUOFOLD

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 18,681 will appear next Saturday. The 5 winners will receive a Duofold fountain pen supplied by Parker

Concise Crossword, page 15

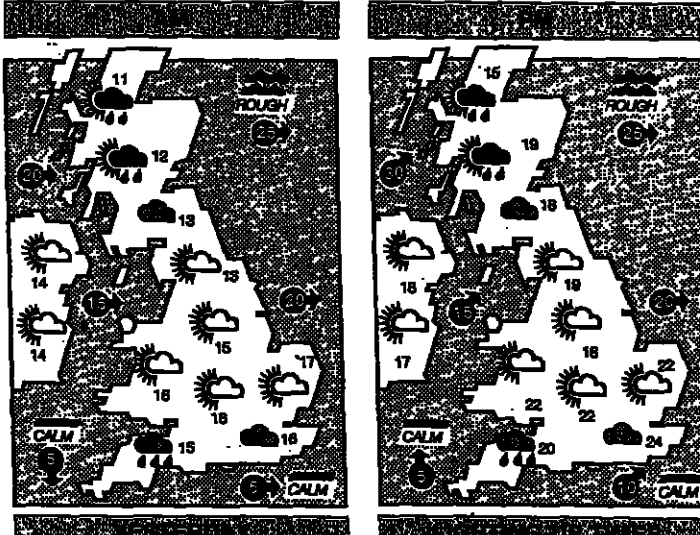
Southern areas will be cloudy with bright spells. The far south-west and the Channel Islands may have drizzle. Wales and central, eastern and north-east England dry with sunny periods. West Wales cloudier later. North-west England and Northern Ireland cloudy with sunny periods. Scotland cloudy with showers, mostly in the west and north. Outlook: rain in southern areas. Showers in far north. Dry elsewhere.

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Humid	Pres	Visib	Notes
London	17	10	100	75	1013	10	Drizzle
Birmingham	16	12	100	75	1012	10	Drizzle
Manchester	15	11	100	75	1011	10	Drizzle
Cardiff	14	10	100	75	1010	10	Drizzle
Edinburgh	13	9	100	75	1009	10	Drizzle
Glasgow	12	8	100	75	1008	10	Drizzle
Newcastle	11	7	100	75	1007	10	Drizzle
Sheffield	10	6	100	75	1006	10	Drizzle
Nottingham	9	5	100	75	1005	10	Drizzle
Leeds	8	4	100	75	1004	10	Drizzle
Sheff Hallam	7	3	100	75	1003	10	Drizzle
Doncaster	6	2	100	75	1002	10	Drizzle
Wakefield	5	1	100	75	1001	10	Drizzle
York	4	0	100	75	1000	10	Drizzle
Lincoln	3	0	100	75	999	10	Drizzle
Nottingham	2	0	100	75	998	10	Drizzle
Leeds	1	0	100	75	997	10	Drizzle
Sheffield	0	0	100	75	996	10	Drizzle
Nottingham	-1	0	100	75	995	10	Drizzle
Leeds	-2	0	100	75	994	10	Drizzle
Sheffield	-3	0	100	75	993	10	Drizzle
Nottingham	-4	0	100	75	992	10	Drizzle
Leeds	-5	0	100	75	991	10	Drizzle
Sheffield	-6	0	100	75	990	10	Drizzle
Nottingham	-7	0	100	75	989	10	Drizzle
Leeds	-8	0	100	75	988	10	Drizzle
Sheffield	-9	0	100	75	987	10	Drizzle
Nottingham	-10	0	100	75	986	10	Drizzle

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 600 followed by the appropriate code.

Region	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Humid	Pres	Visib	Notes
Greater London	17	10	100	75	1013	10	Drizzle
London Bridge	16	11	100	75	1012	10	Drizzle
London City	15	12	100	75	1011	10	Drizzle
London Heathrow	14	13	100	75	1010	10	Drizzle
London Gatwick	13	14	100	75	1009	10	Drizzle
London Luton	12	15	100	75	1008	10	Drizzle
London Stansted	11	16	100	75	1007	10	Drizzle
London Heathrow	10	17	100	75	1006	10	Drizzle
London Gatwick	9	18	100	75	1005	10	Drizzle
London Luton	8	19	100	75	1004	10	Drizzle
London Stansted	7	20	100	75	1003	10	Drizzle
London Heathrow	6	21	100	75	1002	10	Drizzle
London Gatwick	5	22	100	75	1001	10	Drizzle
London Luton	4	23	100	75	1000	10	Drizzle
London Stansted	3	24	100	75	999	10	Drizzle
London Heathrow	2	25	100	75	998	10	Drizzle
London Gatwick	1	26	100	75	997	10	Drizzle
London Luton	0	27	100	75	996	10	Drizzle
London Stansted	-1	28	100	75	995	10	Drizzle
London Heathrow	-2	29	100	75	994	10	Drizzle
London Gatwick	-3	30	100	75	993	10	Drizzle
London Luton	-4	31	100	75	992	10	Drizzle
London Stansted	-5	32	100	75	991	10	Drizzle
London Heathrow	-6	33	100	75	990	10	Drizzle
London Gatwick	-7	34	100	75	989	10	Drizzle
London Luton	-8	35	100	75	988	10	Drizzle
London Stansted	-9	36	100	75	987	10	Drizzle
London Heathrow	-10	37	100	75	986	10	Drizzle

Weather call is charged at 34p per minute (cheap rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.



Temperature at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; m, mist; s, sun.

London 8.30 pm to 5.42 am  
Bright 8.40 pm to 5.52 am  
Moonrise 8.45 pm to 5.58 am  
Perseids 8.47 pm to 5.59 am

Sun rises: 5.45 am Sun sets: 8.30 pm  
Moon rises: 8.55 am Moon sets: 9.01 pm

First Quarter August 17

Saturday: Highest day temp: Southampton 28C (82F); lowest day temp: Fair Isle, Shetland, 14C (57F); highest night temp: Southampton 17C (63F); lowest night temp: Fair Isle, Shetland, 10C (50F); min 6pm to 5am, 15C (59F); rain 24hr to 5pm, 0.006 in. Sun: 24hr to 5pm, 3.1 hr.

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Humid	Pres	Visib	Notes
London	17	10	100	75	1013	10	Drizzle
Birmingham	16	12	100	75	1012	10	Drizzle
Manchester	15	11	100	75	1011	10	Drizzle
Cardiff	14	10	100	75	1010	10	Drizzle
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Leeds	8	4	100	75	1004	10	Drizzle
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Nottingham	2	0	100	75	998	10	Drizzle
Leeds	1	0	100	75	997	10	Drizzle
Sheffield	0	0	100	75	996	10	Drizzle
Nottingham	-1	0	100	75	995	10	Drizzle
Leeds	-2	0	100	75	994	10	Drizzle
Sheffield	-3	0	100	75	993	10	Drizzle
Nottingham	-4	0	100	75	992	10	Drizzle
Leeds	-5	0	100	75	991	10	Drizzle
Sheffield	-6	0	100	75	990	10	Drizzle
Nottingham	-7	0	100	75	989	10	Drizzle
Leeds	-8	0	100	75	988	10	Drizzle
Sheffield	-9	0	100	75	987	10	Drizzle
Nottingham	-10	0	100	75	986	10	Drizzle



Information supplied by Met Office

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● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 19-23  
● DEGREE RESULTS 22  
● LAW REPORT 22  
● EDUCATION 24,25  
● SPORT 33-38

## Executive pay 'not tied to results'

INCREASES in pay of chief executives bear no simple relationship to the performance of their companies, with some receiving pay rises after poor performance while others have had pay cuts despite rising earnings per share.

A survey by Incomes Data Services of the pay of the highest paid director in 77 of the 100 largest quoted companies in the FT-SE index shows that nine received pay rises after two successive years of falling company earnings per share. Six had pay cuts despite rising company earnings in the previous two years.

IDS says this shows that the crude pay figures revealed in annual reports take little account of the complexity of different performance-linked incentive schemes.

The median top pay rise in companies reporting for year-ends from September 1990 to March 1991 was 14.2 per cent, compared with 24.2 per cent a year earlier. The arithmetic average pay rise was, however, 16.6 per cent, buoyed by a few big high profile increases.

There was, however, an exceptionally wide variation. A quarter of the highest paid directors had their earnings cut while another quarter had rises of more than 20 per cent.

No less than eight former public sector companies feature among the top 20 pay rises, but there is evidence that much of this was an exercise in catching up with private sector pay levels.

Robert Evans, the chairman of British Gas, received the second biggest rise in pay of 66 per cent, behind only Sir Ian McLaurin of Tesco.

## Gibraltar in BCCI cash move

WILLIAM Penman-Brown, Gibraltar's commissioner for financial services, is to meet Bank of England officials this week to try to arrange the recovery of £28 million of funds belonging to depositors of the Gibraltar branch of the Bank of Credit & Commerce International.

Gibraltarian depositors and British expatriates on the Costa del Sol, Spain, are pinning their hopes on the finding possibility that Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan, the ruler of Abu Dhabi and majority shareholder in BCCI, might refloat the bank. This follows a meeting in Abu Dhabi last week between Joseph Bossano, chief minister of Gibraltar, and Saris Al-Mzrui, the Sheikh's finance adviser.

Mr Penman-Brown will also meet Touche Ross, the British liquidator, which has requested to become joint liquidators with PricewaterhouseCoopers for BCC Gibraltar. The move has been resisted.

Mr Penman-Brown has, however, offered close co-operation and the exchange of information.

## Poddington in £50,000 deal

PODDINGTON, the cartoon marketing company, has sold American rights to its Poddington Peas characters to Prestige International for £50,000 and 50 per cent of royalty income. Ian Green, managing director, said he hoped the deal would encourage further agreements.

The company's former chairman, Leonard Lee, was charged last year with market manipulation of Poddington shares under the Financial Services Act.

## CHANGE ON WEEK

### THE POUND

US dollar 1.6965 (+0.0085)  
German mark 2.9281 (-0.0133)  
Exchange index 90.8 (-0.1)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 2005.5 (-8.1)  
FT-SE 100 2570.6 (-31.1)  
New York Dow Jones 2996.20 (-10.06)  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 23434.62 (-593.35)

\*\*\*\*\*

# Hong Kong government launches enquiry into bank runs



Sir David: assurances

From LULU YU IN HONG KONG

THE Hong Kong government has launched a full enquiry into the bank runs which have rocked the colony's financial system. The crown colony's commercial crime bureau and independent commission against corruption will jointly investigate rumours of the collapse of worldwide operations which triggered panic withdrawals from Citibank and Standard Chartered last week.

After further withdrawals from Standard Chartered early on Saturday, business returned to normal by late morning. However, depositors had drained an estimated HK\$2 billion (£151 million) in cash reserves from the bank since Thursday night.

In a bid to shore up public confidence, Sir David Ford, the acting Governor, gave

assurances that Hong Kong's banking system was sound and that the government stood firmly in support of it.

"It is very clear to us that the cause of recent problems at Citibank and the Chartered Bank is rumour and nothing more," Sir David said. "The way the banking sector as a whole has responded is a clear indication of the soundness of the system and we in the government stand fully behind it. Should the need arise the exchange fund is there to give the necessary support."

The exchange fund, which maintains the local currency's pegged rate of US\$1.00 to HK\$7.80, has been used to bail out several failed banks since 1983. But neither Citibank nor Standard Chartered requested assistance during the mini-crisis last week. Two other

foreign-owned banks — the International Bank of Asia and Dao Heng Bank — also survived small runs after the Bank of Credit and Commerce scandal spread jitters to Hong Kong last month.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp, the colony's quasi central bank, and the Bank of China issued a joint statement on Saturday pledging their support for the banks affected by rumours.

"The underlying strength of Hong Kong's banking industry is beyond doubt," the statement said. "The current wave of rumours circulating about certain banks in Hong Kong is demonstrably without foundation."

Meanwhile, depositors of the collapsed BCC Hong Kong continue to protest and campaign for the recovery of their funds. The

closure of BCCHK has left a particularly sour taste in the colony, causing the government and the banking system to lose credibility.

The Hong Kong banking commission left BCCHK open for an extra business day after the BCC International's UK and US operations closed on July 5, saying the Hong Kong operations were sound and unaffected by the global sweep. After this decision was reversed and liquidation announced, depositors felt the government had betrayed them and could not be taken seriously.

Some blame for the runs on other unrelated international banks, which have not occurred elsewhere, is being put on nervousness about the future of Hong Kong after 1997, which has made people particularly worried about the safety of their cash savings.

## Germans fear rate rise will stifle growth

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU, EUROPEAN BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

FEARS are rising among German bankers that the tightening of monetary policy expected to be announced by the Bundesbank on Thursday will end the boom in the German economy.

Helmut Schlesinger, the new Bundesbank president is likely to take the opportunity of the first Bundesbank council meeting since his appointment, and the first since its summer break, to make a clear stand against what he sees as strong inflationary pressure.

Expectations of a rise in German rates strengthened after a series of outspoken media interviews by Herr Schlesinger and by regional central bank heads who have

publicly called for a rise in the base discount rate, arguing that the present 2.5 point gap between the discount rate and the emergency lombard rate, currently at 9 per cent, was unsustainable.

The general consensus in Frankfurt is for a 1 point rise in the base discount rate, to 7.5 per cent, and a half-point rise in the lombard rate, to 9.5 per cent, which would lead to an increase in short-term money market rates. If interest rates rise, other countries within Europe's exchange rate mechanism would come under pressure to follow suit.

In Britain, the Chancellor will find it hard to lower base rates by more than half a point from the present 11 per cent level, since foreign exchange

markets expect a differential above German rates.

Norbert Walter, chief economist of Deutsche Bank, said that a Bundesbank rate rise would amount to the "last nail in the coffin of the German boom" and predicted a "sad Christmas". This pessimism is shared by others, notably Commerzbank, Germany's third largest bank, which has also called for rates to remain at current levels, amid indications that the nine-year boom is already slowing.

The Association of German Chambers of Commerce, however, in an unusual move for an industry association, has called for a rate rise to combat

inflation.

Retail price inflation reached 4.4 per cent in July, following a rise in indirect taxes while incoming industrial orders, one of the more reliable leading indicators, rose by 3 per cent month-on-month in June, suggesting that the economy is not slowing significantly.

A 1 point rise in the discount rate would not have any impact on money market rates, which in times of monetary tightness are determined principally by the lombard rate. However, a discount rate rise would lead to a tightening in domestic credit conditions.

Since the lombard rate has lost its position as an emergency funding rate and is increasingly used by banks to fund normal operations, expectations are for a half-point rise in the lombard, which would push money market rates above 9 per cent. A 1 point rise in lombard rate would bring even higher market rates, and be seen as severely deflationary.

Economic view, page 21



Schlesinger: clear stand

small firms survey, covering 750 companies, employing fewer than 200 people each, reports that business confidence, expected output and orders were all lower in July than in the previous quarterly survey, conducted in April. The CBI's gloom is backed by the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors, which also showed orders and employment lower than six months ago.

In assessing the general business situation, a balance of 27 per cent of small firms was less optimistic in July than three months earlier. In April, the negative balance was only 14 per cent. Similar gloom was evident on output and orders. Investment intentions, export prospects and employment plans, however, showed no further deterioration.

Tom O'Connor, chairman of the CBI's smaller firms survey, said that signs of a slackening in the decline in economic activity, expected in April, had failed to materialise.

The trends in the smaller firms survey were close to those published last week in the CBI's broader industrial trends survey.



On reflection: have defence cuts and the recession dashed Eugene Anderson's interim confidence in Ferranti?

## Further losses likely at Ferranti

By ANGELA MACKAY

FERRANTI, the electronics and defence group devastated by fraud in 1989, is expected to announce another loss today for the year to end-March. The group will, however, give details of new banking arrangements, restructuring and progress on its litigation in Britain and America.

Eugene Anderson, executive chairman, confidently predicted, after reporting an

interim pre-tax loss of £20.4 million, that the group would return to pre-tax profit by the end of the financial year. However the prolonged recession and defence cuts are likely to have dashed that optimism. Ferranti shares have steadily fallen this year and now languish at 7½p, just above the all-time low of 7p.

News of the announcement of full-year results came late on Friday, fuelling speculation that Mr Anderson will an-

nounce a move to direct the group into new activities to cut its reliance on defence.

Further disposals are also likely. Recently, the company sold its 64.3 per cent stake in Zonephone to minority shareholders after writing-off £16 million on the investment.

Unlike other groups beset by fraud, Ferranti persuaded its bankers to cobble together a package which kept the company from falling into the hands of administrators, de-

spite the discovery of a £215 million hole in its assets after the deception was uncovered.

One of the incentives which kept the company afloat was the promise of a return from litigation. In June last year, the High Court ordered James Guerin, the company's former deputy chairman, and three associates to repay \$189 million to Ferranti and the company's lawyers have been pursuing enforcement orders in America.

## BT shares sale details expected

DETAILS of the government's plans for the £5 billion sale of the second tranche of shares in British Telecom will be announced today by Francis Maude, the financial secretary.

The shares, which consist of about half the government's remaining 47.8 per cent stake, will be sold through eight "preferred retailers", which will provide after-market dealing services at reduced rates.

Private client brokers, who feared they were being unfairly excluded from the marketing process, will be told that they may act as approved managers and preregister their clients, who will be entitled to the same terms as those dealing through the preferred retailers.

## Power to the people — at a price

By ROSS TIEMAN  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

HOW does an electricity company with more than twice as many shareholders as customers go about arranging its first annual meeting?

The tight pricing of the Scottish electricity floatation in June has left Scottish Hydro-Electric, and its bigger peer, Scottish Power, with far larger shareholder registers than either had expected before privatisation.

The problem is especially acute for Hydro. Since trading began, the shares, offered at 100p, have failed to sustain their initial premium of 23p. They closed on Friday at 111.5p, a premium scarcely adequate, for most investors with relatively few shares, to cover the cost of disposal. One consequence has been that the number of shareholders has declined by only 200,000 to 1.3 million. This modest generating and supply company has more shareholders than BT, the former state telephone company, which has seen its register halve, to 1.1 million, since privatisation in 1984.

The premium maintained by shares in

Scottish Power has been even slimmer. Its shareholder register has reduced by only 300,000 to 1.43 million. After sending executives on a whistle-stop tour of annual meetings of other privatised utilities in England and Wales, Scottish Power has booked the largest hall at the Scottish Exhibition Centre in Glasgow for its annual meeting on September 23. The hall's capacity 8,500.

A Scottish Power spokesman said: "Because there has not been that much of a premium to the shares people have not sold. Our main problem is uncertainty about the number of people who will come."

While Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, may rejoice at his success in "broadening and deepening share ownership" in Scotland, Scottish power companies face sizeable additional costs.

Before the floatation, Hydro executives speculated privately that the share register would settle at about 600,000. In practice, they face a bill approaching £500,000 to post the annual report to shareholders. Add the cost of printing the document and the cost of arrangements for the meeting, and a bill of more

than £2 million seems inevitable. For a company with annual profits of £90 million, that is no small sum.

Hydro and Scottish Power made provisions before privatisation to cover such costs. In an effort to contain costs, however, both will ask shareholders to approve the issue of short-form reports in future. They also hope shareholders' interest in annual meetings will wane.

The location of Hydro's annual meeting, at the Aberdeen conference centre, should discourage the 75 per cent of those who registered for shares that are not Scots. Hydro's advisers calculate that, typically, only 2.27 per cent of shareholders attend annual meetings.

At BT, 4,500 shareholders attended the first annual meeting, in 1985, at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham. By 1987, the number had fallen to 1,500, and this year it slipped to 700, although fluctuations can still be considered. Even at BT, the most experienced company in Britain at managing such a big share register, printing the annual report still costs £360,000, or 24p a copy. Shareholder democracy does not come cheap.

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## REPORTING THIS WEEK

# Currency gains likely to bolster Hanson

HANSON, the industrial conglomerate headed by Lord Hanson, reports its third-quarter figures on Wednesday, although attention will focus on the group's plans for its investment in ICI. Hanson's strategic stake of 2.8 per cent, which it says is held for "investment purposes", hangs like the sword of Damocles over the big chemicals and pharmaceuticals group.

## TOMORROW

The composite insurers' reporting season continues with first-half figures from General Accident. Alan Nichols, at James Capel, forecasts a pre-tax loss of £96 million, against a loss of £66.2 million last time. Market expectations range from losses of £75 million to £101 million. General Accident's UK underwriting loss will have increased. But the interim dividend should be at least maintained at 9.7p - and could even be raised to 10p after the rise in Commercial Union's dividend last week.

## TODAY

Pearson, the publishing, financial and industrial group chaired by Lord Blakenham, will report a sharp decline in first-half profits. The group, which owns the *Financial Times* and *Madame Tussaud's*, is expected to see its pre-tax profits slump to £43 million (£97.8 million), according to Charles P. at Nomura. Earnings per share are forecast to fall to 11.0p (24.5p), while the interim dividend should be maintained at 10.75p.

The slump will have hit the FT, where advertising revenue accounts for about 80 per cent of the newspaper's revenue. Book publishing has had a tough first half, with losses of £7.1 million predicted, against a profit of £2.1 million last time.

## WEDNESDAY

Smith New Court expects Ultramar, the oil and gas group, to report an historic cost loss of about £7 million, compared with a restated net income of £19 million for the second quarter of last year. Smith estimates profits for the second quarter at £13 million,

## THURSDAY

down 29 per cent on last year, on a replacement cost basis. However, an unchanged interim dividend of 3.5p is expected. The recession and the Gulf war will be responsible for a substantial decline at Queens Meat Houses, the hotelier. Interim pre-tax profits are expected to fall to £24 million (£39.5 million), according to Richard Chalk at County NatWest, especially as Queens Meat is geared to the business

## FRIDAY

trade, which is taking the brunt of the recession. Earnings per share are likely to drop to 2.15p (3.69p), although County predicts an increased interim dividend of 1.35p (1.22p). Interim: AAF Investment Corporation, CSC Investment Trust, Hanson (third quarter), New Zealand Investment Trust (third quarter), Nichols (JN) (Vinto), North Midland Construction, Novo-Nordisk AS, Queens Meat Houses, Ultramar, Finales: Abingworth, Benchmark Group, Heath (Samuel) & Sons, Rextreme.



Early warning: Gareth Davies, who gave a caution on profits, is expected to peg Glywed's interim dividend

## THURSDAY

Hickson International, the chemicals group, is expected to suffer a sharp fall in first-half profits, as the group is vulnerable to the poor conditions in Britain and America. Martin Evans, at Hoare Govett, forecasts pre-tax profits of £10.5 million, against £18.3 million last time. Mr Evans expects earnings per share to fall to 6.7p (10.5p), although the interim dividend

## FRIDAY

should be held at 2.15p. Merchant Distributor, Hickson's floor and ceiling tiles division, is likely to make a loss, against a profit last time, hit by the recession. The core chemicals side is relatively stable. There will also be exceptional rationalisation costs. Glywed International, the engineering and building products group where Gareth Davies, the chairman, gave a warning of poor results earlier

this year, is expected to unveil substantially lower profits. UBS Phillips & Drew has pencilled in interim pre-tax profits of £10 million (£40.4 million), although a maintained dividend of 4.15p is looked for. Market forecasts range from £8 million to £12 million.

Royal Insurance is likely to report a pre-tax loss of £104 million, compared with last time's loss of £65 million, according to James Capel. The interim dividend, however, should be held at 11.25p. Market forecasts range from losses of £95 million to £120 million. James Capel expects underwriting losses in Britain to surge from £121 million to £191 million.

Interim: Elgarden Industries, Glywed International, Hickson International, Johnson Group Cleaners, Martin International Green Investment Trust, Molyneux Holdings, News International, Royal Insurance, Thornton Corp.

Finales: Sunlife Speakman. Economic statistics: Provisional figures of vehicle production (July), capital expenditure by the manufacturing industries (second quarter - provisional), labour market statistics: unemployment and unfilled vacancies (July - provisional), average earnings indices (June - provisional), employment, hours, productivity and unit wage costs (second quarter), monetary statistics including M4 (second quarter), bank and building society sterling lending (second quarter).

## FRIDAY

Interim: Gold Fields Property Co, Plasman, Portmarion Potatoes, Smaller Companies Investment Trust. Finales: None announced. Economic statistics: Usable steel production (July), public sector borrowing requirement (July), retail price index and tax and price index (July).

PHILIP PANGALOS

## Germans act to curb exports to Serbia

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU, EUROPEAN BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

THE German government has moved closer to imposing economic sanctions on Serbia with an amendment to the federal export credit insurance system. Exporters will now receive cover only for trade with Slovenia and Croatia, but not with Serbia, Yugoslavia's largest republic.

The decision to discriminate between the various republics follows Britain's tightening of export credits for Yugoslavia and is a first step in what is expected to lead to wider economic sanctions, including a full trade embargo against Serbia, which Bonn blames for the violence. A cabinet meeting to discuss economic sanctions will be held soon, a spokesman said.

Theo Waigel, the finance minister, said: "We are placing ourselves on the side of those in Yugoslavia who favour a development without the use of force. At the same time we want to examine whether further support could be considered for Slovenia and Croatia."

Export credit insurance, which in most countries is conducted by a national government agency, is used by exporters to insure against payment default in trade with countries, such as those in eastern Europe, where the exporters face substantial risks. Governments also use export credit insurance to encourage or discourage trade with certain countries.

The German decision is effective immediately and will have serious implications for the whole of Yugoslavia's frail economy. Germany replaced the Soviet Union last year as Yugoslavia's largest trading partner, with exports amounting to DM8.2 billion. That represented just under 60 per cent of all exports from the West, much of which could now be at risk. If the German government decided to enact a trade embargo with Serbia, this would also put at risk imports from Yugoslavia, which last year amounted to DM7.3 billion.

The new Slovenian-Croatian export scheme, run by the federal Hermes insurance system, will initially cover only short-term credits, up to one year, due to the present uncertainties in the region.

Britain's export credit guarantee department (ECGD) has also tightened up insurance cover for Yugoslavia and now requires a confirmed irrevocable letter of credit - a note of payment issued by a Yugoslav bank and confirmed by a British bank - which carries an exactly specified period of validity.

An official at ECGD said this type of document was "virtually impossible to obtain" at present due to British banks' reluctance to guarantee Yugoslav letters of credit.

Britain has only limited trade with Yugoslavia. Exports amounted to £261 million last year while imports were only £189 million.

## Pension funds more dominant in UK

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

PENSION funds play a bigger role in savings and investment in Britain than in any other leading country and this may have had a substantial impact on the financing of companies, a study for the Bank of England finds.

Pension fund assets amount to nearly a quarter of total personal sector assets in

Britain, compared with about 13 per cent in North America, and little more than 2 per cent in Japan and Germany. Investment by independently funded schemes accounts for 70 per cent of personal saving in Britain, compared with about 50 per cent in America, 20 per cent in Japan, where funds are growing fast, and only 4 per cent in Germany, where there are tax disadvantages to such funded schemes.

The study, to be published in the Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin on Thursday, confirms that British pension funds hold a much higher proportion of their assets in equities, about two thirds of their total assets, than their counterparts in other countries. They also hold more foreign assets and property than funds abroad, but a much smaller proportion in government and, particularly, company bonds, due to the history of inflation.

Individuals have responded to the growth of institutional saving in Britain and North America by switching much more of the saving under their own control into cash deposits.

## Profitability tumbles but dividends rise

THE fall in profitability in 1990 was as steep as in 1974-5 and 1980-1, although profitability, at 6 per cent, was still above the level in the two previous recessions, another Bank of England study concludes. The fall in profitability coincided with a 4.1 per cent rise in labour cost, while labour productivity hardly changed during the year.

Dividend payments rose by 17 per cent, while the ratio between dividend payments to income after taxes and interest rose from 56 per cent to 63 per cent. The net effect was a further reduction in retained earnings.

## Delta leads the pack in chase for Pan Am assets

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

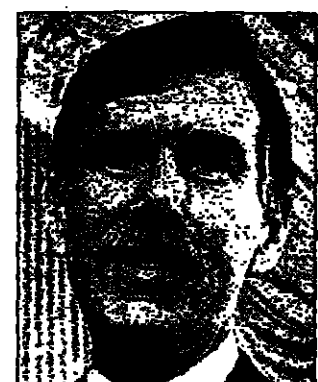
THE final chapter in the eight-month battle to dismantle Pan Am Corporation is expected to be written today in the New York bankruptcy courts when Judge Cornelius Blackshear is due to decide who will get what of the airline that once ruled the international skies.

Five airlines are competing for various parts of Pan Am - Trans World, United, American, Northwest and Delta. The offer from Delta, America's third largest carrier, emerged as favourite at the weekend. The airline has increased its offer to \$904 million, which topped the previously highest, a joint bid from TWA and American claimed to be worth \$660 million.

United's bid of \$465 million is for specified routes and assets and Northwest just wants to buy Pan Am's Boston-New York-Washington commuter shuttle.

The offers from Delta and TWA-American are for various assets but also include making an investment to keep Pan Am flying under its own name, while Stephen Wolf, president of United Airlines, just wants the lucrative Latin American services.

A 14-man committee representing Pan Am's 20,000 creditors was meeting throughout the weekend to decide which offer wins its support. Late last night it had reached no decision. Prior to Delta raising its bid,



Wolf seeks specific routes

which has the backing of the Pan Am management, creditors had rejected it as too low. Marc Richards, of Milgrim, Thompson & Lee, the New York firm advising the creditors, said yesterday that the committee intended to reach a conclusion on which bid it will support before the bankruptcy judge today, and he could then make a decision as to who

would be the new owner of the assets.

Pan Am, has already sold its most valuable asset - the transatlantic routes to Heathrow - which went to United Airlines for \$290 million. Its remaining jewels include the Boston-New York-Washington east coast commuter shuttle, the profitable Latin American service and several routes into Spain, Italy, Portugal, and London's Gatwick Airport.

But analysts say that none of the offers comes close to the price needed to settle all the creditors' claims in full. Pan Am's top 20 creditors alone are owed \$1 billion.

Meanwhile, two American billionaires - Jay Pritzker of Chicago, whose family owns the Hyatt Hotel chain, and Kirk Kerkorian, former owner of MGM United Artists, the Hollywood studio - have said they are interested in parts of Pan Am, but both have yet to show their hands.

## IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION

No. 008012 of 1991

**IN THE MATTER of LEGAL AND GENERAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY LIMITED - and -**  
**IN THE MATTER of LEGAL AND GENERAL (UNIT ASSURANCE) LIMITED - and -**  
**IN THE MATTER of LEGAL AND GENERAL (UNIT PENSIONS) LIMITED - and -**  
**IN THE MATTER of THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ACT 1982**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 16th July, 1991 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) by the above-named Legal and General Assurance Society Limited (hereinafter referred to as "the Society") for the sanction of the Court under Section 49 of the Insurance Companies Act 1982 to a Scheme ("the Scheme") providing for the transfer to the Society of the long term business (as defined by Section 1(1) of the said Act) of Legal and General (Unit Assurance) Limited (hereinafter referred to as "UAC") and Legal and General (Unit Pensions) Limited (hereinafter referred to as "UPC") and for orders making ancillary provisions in connection with the said transfer under Section 50 of the said Act.

Policyholders of the three Companies may make contact with the Society at 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, East Sussex BN3 1SE during normal business hours for a period of 21 days from the publication of this notice to obtain an explanatory document giving more information on the Scheme, or may telephone the special Help Desk on (0737) 375137 or (0273) 824844.

Copies of the said Petition, the Scheme, the reports of the Appointed Actuaries to the Society, UAC and UPC and of Tillinghast, consulting actuaries, instructed on behalf of each of the Society, UAC and UPC and a Report by an Independent Actuary in pursuance of the said Section 49 of the said Act may

be inspected at each of the offices of Legal and General Assurance Society Limited specified in the Schedule hereto during normal business hours for a period of 21 days from the publication of this notice. Copies of these documents will be furnished by the Solicitors named below to any person requiring them prior to the making of any Order sanctioning the Scheme on payment of the prescribed charge for the same.

The Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr Justice Mummery at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, on Wednesday the 4th day of September 1991. Any person (including any employee of the Society, UAC and UPC) who claims that he or she would be adversely affected by the Scheme may appear at the time of the said hearing in person or by Counsel. Any person who intends so to appear, and any Policyholder of the Society, UAC and UPC who dissents from the Scheme but does not intend so to appear, should give not less than two clear days' prior notice in writing of such intention or dissent and of the reasons therefor to such Solicitors.

Dated this 31st day of July 1991

SLAUGHTER AND MAY  
 (Ref: GWJ/LHB)  
 35 Basinghall Street, London, EC2V 5DB  
 Solicitors for the Society, UAC and UPC

### THE SCHEDULE hereinbefore referred to Addresses of offices for inspecting documents

10 Golden Square, Abersdeen AB9 8BZ	2nd Floor, Clemente House, St. Werburgh Street, Chester CH1 2BY	3rd Floor, 28-42 Clements Road, Ilford IG1 1BA	2nd Floor, 10 Piccadilly, London W1V 0AB	1st Floor, Bradfield House, Westgate, Peterborough PE1 2SY
4th Floor, Cleaver House, Donegall Square North, Belfast BT1 5DP	4 Copthall House, Station Square, Coventry CV1 2PP	Hyde Park House, Crown Street, Liverpool L1 3LF	3rd Floor, Wesley House, 19 Chapel Street, Luton LU1 2SE	190 Armada Way, Cobourg Street, Plymouth PL1 1LD
5th Floor, 1 Victoria Square, Birmingham B1 1BC	Davis House, 69-77 High Street, Exeter EX1 1EG	Forge House, 66 High Street, Kingston-upon-Thames KT1 1HN	Kestrel House, Knightrider Court, Maidstone ME15 6LU	1st Floor, Abbey Gardens, 4-6 Abbey Street, Reading RG1 3BA
Ground Floor Suite, Woodland Point, Wootton Mount, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth BH1 1NG	Abbey House, 5 Market Place, Derby DE1 3PY	Legal and General House, St. Monica's Road, Kingswood KT20 6EU	St. Ann's House, St. Ann's Place, Manchester M2 7LP	Yorkshire House, Leopold Street, Sheffield S1 1LU
1 Duke Street, Brighton BN1 1DD	34 Melville Street, Edinburgh EH3 7HA	Windmill Lane, Lower Kingswood, KT20 6TH	59 Albert Road, Middlesbrough TA1 1BR	Enterprise House, Ocean Way, Southampton SO1 1XD
6th Floor, 1 Redcliffe Street, Bristol BS1 6NR	Bovril House, Southbury Road, Enfield EN2 6AP	Zicon House, Wade Lane, Leeds LS2 8NN	4th Floor, Parade House, 7/8 The Parade, Swindon SN1 2EA	48 Stafford Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 1HH
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101 New London Road, Chelmsford CM2 0PP	18-44 St. Annes Road, Harrow HA1 1LA	36/57 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 4AB	Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TP	Derwent House, 42-46 Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton WV1 4DD
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# Waiting for the Buba

## ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

Whether or not the Bundesbank raises Germany's interest rates on Thursday, a momentous week for the world economy and financial markets lies ahead. In all probability, the Buba (as the central bank is affectionately called) will raise at least its largely symbolic discount rate. The real question is whether it will also raise the lombard rate, which acts as an effective ceiling on market rates. Whether it wants to serve Germany, Europe or the world economy at large, the Buba should push up all its rates.

In fact, if the Buba does not act this week, the consequences could be greater and more disruptive than if it does. A rise in interest would still be expected by the financial markets and, as every investor knows, fears are often more threatening than realities. As a result, Germany and the world economy would suffer the worst of both worlds: interest rate anxieties would continue to unsettle financial markets and business decision makers in Germany and the rest of Europe; yet currency speculators would conclude that the

Buba was failing to stop inflation or defend the mark.

German bond and stock markets would weaken and the mark would probably fall steeply, albeit briefly, against the dollar. The jump in the dollar would increase the likelihood of an even sharper fall later, adding to the risk premia in financial assets around the world and compounding the wastefulness of international investment decisions based on wildly unstable exchange rates. On the international front, the Buba's restraint would doubtless be welcomed in the American Treasury and the finance ministries of Europe. But, in reality, neither America nor Europe would gain from German vacillation, especially in the long term.

A weakening of the mark against the dollar would create a further serious obstacle to the American economic recovery, which is dependent as never

before on exports to Europe. In a perverse way, the Bush Administration might welcome such a setback for the American manufacturing sector, because it would add ammunition to the White House campaign for further cuts in interest rates.

A Buba decision to keep German rates unchanged this week, especially if it were followed by a sharp rise in the dollar, could give the green light to an American easing, perhaps as early as next week.

But would even lower interest rates be the right way to stimulate the American economy? At 5½ per cent, the overnight federal funds rate in America is less than two percentage points above the expected rate of inflation. This

must already be well below a sustainable equilibrium, especially if there is a global savings shortage. To cut American interest rates much further would introduce an additional source of potential instability into the world economy. When federal funds began to creep upwards, Wall Street and other stock markets around the world could face some difficult, perhaps even cataclysmic adjustments, just as they did in 1987, the last time interest rates began to rise from unsustainably low levels.

If the American economy does need further stimulus, and the recent signs suggest that it does, then the right way to administer this help is through the exchange rate. Confounding the fas-

tionable gloom about American industry's loss of international competitiveness, exporting manufacturing goods last year became America's most dynamic business. Most of these exports have either gone directly to Europe or have displaced European goods in other countries around the world, including in the American market.

The revival of American manufacturing sales around the world has been fuelled by the strength of demand in Germany and the sharp fall of the dollar against the mark.

Economists can argue until the cows come home about the relative importance of these currency and demand factors, but the fact is that Germany's rapid growth is about to come to an end. Thus, if America is to continue enjoying additional stimulus from its export performance, from now, there will be only one way to achieve this — by keeping the dollar extremely

competitive against the mark. As for Europe, a rise in German interest rates might cause some temporary strains in the exchange-rate mechanism. But countries that did not have long-term balance of payments problems (according to the present conventional wisdom, this category would include Britain) should be able to handle such tensions through intervention, for a rise in German interest rates, if it succeeded in underpinning the mark and curbing inflationary expectations, would be a strictly temporary phenomenon. That could, and probably would, be reversed well before output and investment suffered any serious damage.

If the Buba stopped following the markets and started to act more decisively, it could knock on the head the notion that underlying inflationary pressures in Germany were now stronger than in France, America and even Britain. When this absurd perception was corrected, German interest rates could fall rapidly; in six months they could be much lower than they are today.

## Foreign drinkers lap up whisky's smart image

In continental Europe and the Far East, drinking Scotch carries the cachet once reserved for Carnaby Street fashions. But, at home, it conjures up images of old men

IN BRITAIN today, Scotch is an old man's drink. Those under the age of 35 and, it seems, a good proportion of their fathers, have spurned whisky in favour of wine and fancy foreign lagers. From an increasingly health conscious populace, the consumption of spirits can even attract the raised eyebrows once reserved for the customer who ordered a round of orange juices in a pub.

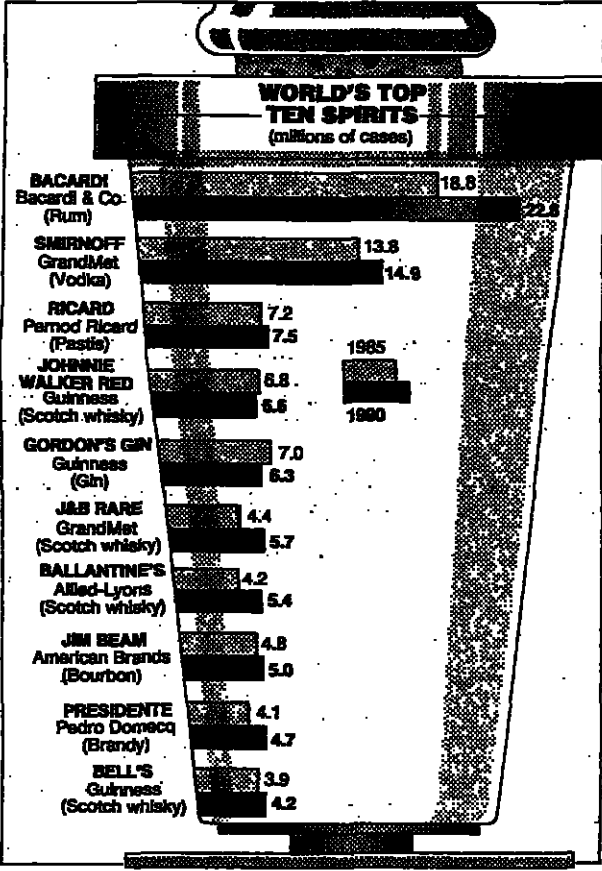
British attitudes appear to be shared only in English-speaking countries. In continental Europe and the Far East, drinking Scotch carries the cachet once reserved for Carnaby Street fashions. Whisky's image is smart and fashionable, and its sales are soaring.

There can be little surprise then that American Brands, the parent of Gallaher, is anxious to win control of the Invergordon Distillers Group. Whyte & Mackay Distillers, Gallaher's subsidiary, has tabled an unsolicited £286 million offer for Invergordon.

The Whyte & Mackay brand ranks number 14 in a table of the world's most bought Scotch whiskies. Its Claymore brand is at 17 and Crawford's does not even rank in the top 20. Invergordon is an even smaller player in the global market. Original Macdonald, Chumy, Legacy and Scots Grey blends, and Jura, Tannavulin-Glenlivet, Tullibardine and Bruichladdich malts, its brands, are names that Britons might recognise, but many foreigners would not.

Invergordon's main market lies in the production of supermarkets' own brands and in the supply of blending whiskies to other distillers. That is not necessarily a weak position, however. Developing a whisky brand is not like promoting a beer. Whisky has to be matured, and that is why there is seven and a half years' production piled up in barrels in Scotland, most of it waiting to come of age. Whyte & Mackay's offer is as much a bid for stocks as for brands and market share.

Keeping demand and supply in balance is difficult in an industry that has such long production cycles. In the mid-Eighties, the equilibrium went badly awry. Overproduction



led to discounting and distillers' profits went into decline. United Distillers, owned by Guinness, and IDV, run by Grand Metropolitan, however, have led the industry out

match — in markets where it had hitherto been regarded merely as exotic. Their timing was impeccable. In continental Europe and the Far East, they caught

the imagination of young drinkers with more cash in their pockets than ever before. In Japan, their push coincided with reductions in the discriminatory taxes previously

levied on imported spirits. As a result, whisky distillers' profits rose strongly, despite a decline in worldwide sales of 3 million cases, to 71.5 million cases, in the past two years.

The importance of international sales should not be underestimated. According to research by Impact International, last year, Scotch whisky sales in Britain amounted to 11.5 million cases, or just 16 per cent of the total. Selling spirits is an increasingly global business. How many regulars in the average British pub would guess that Bacardi rum is the best selling spirit in the world or that Johnnie Walker Red is the best selling whisky?

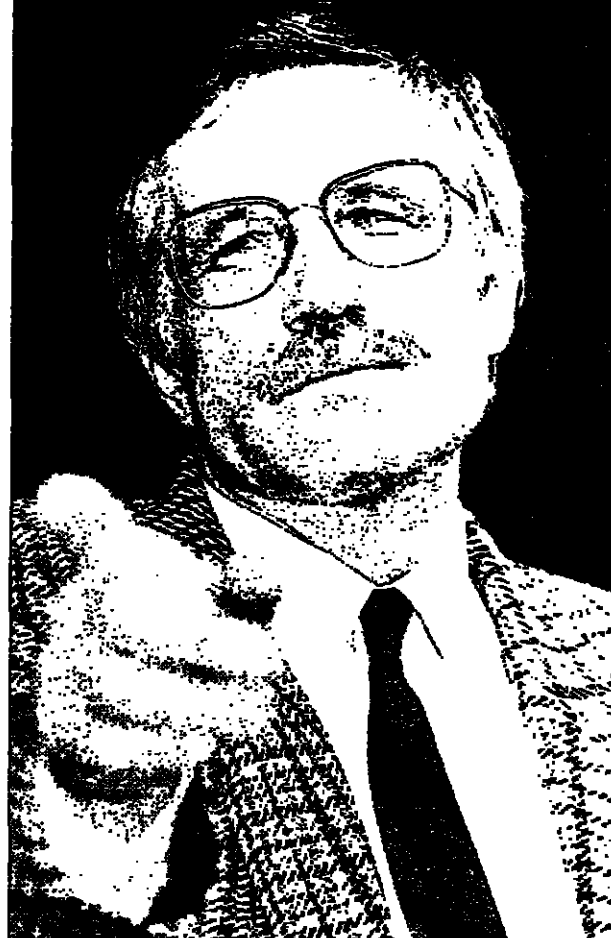
There is a strong desire among global spirits companies to develop international alliances and a broad range of products. Impact estimated that GrandMet's IDV shipped 41.2 million cases of spirits last year, making it the world's largest spirit company. IDV has 11 brands in the top 100. Guinness's United Distillers, in second place, controls nine.

American Brands, the diversified successor to the old American Tobacco group, which ranks tenth in the world thanks to labels such as Jim Beam bourbon, Windsor Canadian and Kamchatka Vodka, has caused no surprise with its decision to strengthen its hand. Whisky is an attractive product in expanding spirit markets. According to Impact, between 1989 and 1990, whisky sales in Mexico grew 51 per cent, in Thailand 70 per cent, in Portugal and Korea 14 per cent, and in Greece 13 per cent.

How long the trend will continue is anyone's guess. Growth might soon fizzle out as markets in the emerging economies are hit by the health concerns and high taxation that characterise more developed countries. There is also a school of thought, however, that suggests that after such a long spell out of fashion, Scotch may be ready for a resurgence in mature markets too. That may be wishful thinking, but as long as overproduction is avoided, whisky's attractions will not diminish.

ROSS TIEMAN  
Industrial Correspondent

## Weighing up the ways and means of privatisation



Pointing out the benefits of vouchers: Vaclav Klaus

dustry minister, who is in charge of the sale, has a different view of privatisation. He said: "Privatisation is not the goal itself. It is just the means. It is a means to revitalise companies. From this point of view, it is necessary to approach companies on a case by case basis, and assess them individually." He added that, if a full

scheme is not dead, however, Czechoslovakia will still be able to be either minority shareholders in companies effectively controlled by foreign investors, or in companies that failed to attract foreign investors.

What might be regarded as the relegation of the voucher scheme will make Czechoslovakian economic policy less extravagant, but the combination of the two schemes seems to offer a combination of public participation and the injection of foreign capital and skills.

The combined system also makes Czechoslovakia more interesting for western investors, most of whom have previously concentrated on Hungary and eastern Germany, which were the first to start the process of privatisation.

The Czech national privatisation programme will eventually involve 750 companies. The experience of eastern Germany has shown that there are some companies, such as Skoda, the car manufacturer, which can be sold immediately, and some, such as Skoda Plm, after some restructuring. There will also be some that need to be closed. The irony is that the better the programme proceeds, the faster the rise in unemployment.

Of all eastern European countries, it is Czechoslovakia, and in particular the Czech republic, that has the best chance of coping with the economic transition to a free market economy.

There are already indications that western investors are interested in Mr Vrbta's programme. From an investor's point of view, it matters little whether a full or only a partial takeover is on offer. This depends on the interaction between the federal and the national schemes. A 40 per cent stake, which has been recommended, should be enough to gain full management control.

WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU  
European Business Correspondent

## GILT-EDGED

## Easing inflation offers hope in an uncertain future

The gilt-edged market had a firm feel to it last week, digesting supply relatively easily while foreign investors continue to show an interest. Bullish views are based primarily on falling American interest rates and growing optimism about the inflation outlook in Britain.

In the near term, gilt yields could fall further. The market will receive more good news on inflation this week: we expect significant falls in the rate of increase in producer prices and the headline retail price inflation rate.

We also think the rise in German interest rates, expected on Thursday, will be good for bonds: the last two times the Bundesbank raised rates, Bunds staged small rallies and pulled other European markets up. This time, there may be even stronger rises in bond prices; first, because investors will take the view that this definitely is the last rate rise and, second, because higher German rates will further depress the European economy.

With the German rate rise out of the way, attention will return to the possibility of cuts in Britain. The question then is how much further the interest rate differential can be narrowed and, whether British and German rates could cross. The likelihood of the headline rate of inflation in Britain falling below German inflation for a while is certainly a favourable factor. However, in France inflation is already convincingly below German

inflation, but the franc is weak and the monetary authorities dare not risk a cut in interest rates, even though growth may have been absent during the first half of the year. Despite an encouraging inflation performance and a steadfast commitment to the policy of "francfort", investors still see the more risk of a franc devaluation than a mark devaluation.

Only time will change investors' view of currency risk, and for sterling the risk must be perceived to be even greater than for the franc. Not only is sterling a recent entrant to the ERM, but there is also the matter of the general election. This will be the first time since exchange controls were abolished that a general election will be held with the parties level in the opinion polls.

A risk of a run on the pound therefore exists and the authorities need to maintain a positive interest rate differential. The government may just be able to nudge base rates down another half point during the Conservative Party conference, scheduled for October 8. Thereafter there will be little scope for further cuts until German rates start to decline.

We see little prospect of any cuts in German interest rates until next year. A decision on taxation of investment income is expected next month, which could induce further capital outflows and weaken the mark, thereby leading to another rate hike. Also of concern is the next pay round,

which begins in January. The Bundesbank remains very concerned not to let the rise in price inflation translate into even higher wage settlements.

Thus the market will not be able to look forward to any more encouragement from lower interest rates. And as it moves towards the end of the year other factors will begin to turn sour. In November, the autumn statement will signal a rise in the planning total and a higher PSBR. But more important will be the political situation. The perceived wisdom is that governments that leave elections to the last minute tend to lose. So if the government does not call an election in the autumn, the markets will become increasingly nervous and the opinion polls will take centre stage. There have been half-hearted attempts to argue that Labour would not be that bad for the market, but after 13 years of Conservative rule, there is bound to be uncertainty and foreboding about what a change will bring.

All this does not appear to create a scenario where investors should be buying gilts. The one glimmer of hope is inflation. Pundits are increasingly optimistic that Britain's inflation problem has been cured. In 1986 inflation fell to 2.4 per cent amid claims of an economic miracle. Investors will need more convincing this time.

GLENN DAVIES  
Chief economist, Credit Lyonnais Securities

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### In search of a wig

SIMON Gleeson, the Williams de Broe analyst who put the wind up British Aerospace last month, is seeking a new career as a barrister. After three years studying for a law degree part-time, he is now seeking chambers and hopes to specialise in tax and company law. "I am wearing a hat and a wig at the same time," says Gleeson, aged 28, who infuriated BAE after discovering that only £35 million of its £285 million trading profit last year was made, as he put it, out of building things. "We were waiting for a Tornado to come in the window," he adds. Now busy with a report on telecommunications, he leaves the firm in two weeks' time.

### Point of pay

PERHAPS it is not surprising, given the publicity, but company board directors seem to be twitchy about the vexed question of executive pay. At the Rascal Electronics annual meeting on Friday, Sir Ernest Harrison, the company's



"Careful where you bank your compensation"

doughty chairman, launched into a long and spirited defence of his and his board's pay and rewards, in answer to a shareholder's question. The only problem was the question had been about that other staple gripe — the remuneration of auditors. Since Sir Ernest is an old friend of Michael Blackburn, chairman of Touche Ross, the auditor in question, maybe he felt a diversion was in order.

### Mobile Crane

JOHN Crane, a subsidiary of TI, the engineering group, is sending a mobile factory and an articulated lorry to Kuwait next Sunday so that three men can repair and replace seals damaged or destroyed during the Iraqi occupation. The factory, which will have its own power generator and air-conditioning, is fully equipped with all the tools of the trade.

"We expect it to be out there for two years," says a spokesman. Whether the intrepid crew will be in Kuwait for the whole two years remains to be seen.

### Grin and bear it

THE derivatives desk at County NatWest Woodmac was swamped with telephone calls from puzzled clients on Friday. The cause was a newly published report on global derivatives, which has on the cover a large colour photograph of a man's face apparently contorted in pain. The picture is of Horst Ebbauer, world champion at the facetraining sport of turning. But the photograph bears an uncanny resemblance to Robert Mapstone, head of derivatives at County, and formerly of Warburg. "They were convinced it was Robert," says an amused colleague. "He does

screw up his face when he's angry."

### Stress of horseplay

SHEIKH Hamdan Al Maktoum, the billionaire racehorse owner, spares no expense when it comes to his 6,000 acre Shadwell stud. The sheikh, younger brother of the ruler of Dubai, has splashed out on a set of stress balls to amuse convalescent horses on the stud near Thetford, Norfolk. Pig breeders in Yorkshire and Humberside discovered the balls a year ago, and now equestrians are catching on. "We've sold more than 2,000 in the last year," says Bernard Hoggarth of Cranwick Mill, which imports the balls from Denmark. "Someone even wanted one for their Great Dane."

JON ASHWORTH







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44	British Airways	Transport	British Airways
45	British Airways	Transport	British Airways
46	British Airways	Transport	British Airways
47	British Airways	Transport	British Airways
48	British Airways	Transport	British Airways
49	British Airways	Transport	British Airways
50	British Airways	Transport	British Airways

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend  
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £2,000 on Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

There were no valid claims for the weekly Portfolio Platinum prize of £4,000.

## BRITISH FUNDS

Stock	Price	Div	Yield	Div	Yield
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00	1.00%

## SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Stock	Price	Div	Yield	Div	Yield
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00	1.00%

## FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Stock	Price	Div	Yield	Div	Yield
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00	1.00%

## OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Stock	Price	Div	Yield	Div	Yield
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00	1.00%

## UNDATED

Stock	Price	Div	Yield	Div	Yield
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00	1.00%

## INDEX-LINKED

Stock	Price	Div	Yield	Div	Yield
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00	1.00%

## BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

Stock	Price	Div	Yield	Div	Yield
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00	1.00%

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Capitalisation and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)  
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end August 30. Settlement day September 2. Settlement day September 9.  
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices.

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## BREWERIES

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## BUILDING, ROADS

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## ELECTRICITY

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## FINANCE, LAND

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## FOODS

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## DRAPERY, STORES

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## HOTELS, CATERERS

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## S-Z

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## ELECTRICALS

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## INSURANCE

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
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## LEISURE

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## MINING

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

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1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

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Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## OILS, GAS

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1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
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Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## SHOES, LEATHER

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## TEXTILES

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## TOBACCOS

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## TRANSPORT

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
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1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## PROPERTY

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## SHOES, LEATHER

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## TEXTILES

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## TOBACCOS

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## TRANSPORT

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

## WATER

Company	Price	Div	Yield	P/E
1000000	100.00	1.00	1.00%	1.00

© Ex-dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend a interim dividend passed f Price at suspension of dividend and yield includes a special dividend f Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings g Ex other f Ex rights a Ex scrip or share split i Tax-free ... No significant data.



# The colleges facing boom or bust

While polytechnics celebrate the prospect of improved status, and universities set about defending their corner, another sector of higher education is spending the summer in a state of uncertainty.

The 50 colleges of higher education have led a chequered existence throughout the 14 years they have been established as a group. Some have closed because of the periodic cuts in teacher training places, others have merged with universities and a few have been designated as polytechnics.

Responsible now for 120,000 students, the higher education colleges have grown even more rapidly than polytechnics or universities. They vary from small, specialist colleges of a few hundred students in teacher training or art and design, to broad-based institutions, akin to the polytechnics, with several thousand registered.

May's white paper on higher education, however, has thrown their future in the air. The Council for National Academic Awards (CNAA), which validates many of the colleges' degrees, is to be abolished, and those associated with universities are already rethinking their relationships.

For some of the colleges, the change will bring an unimagined opportunity to make the leap to university status. Many of the rest, however, see their jealousy

Uncertainty hangs over a sector of higher education,

John O'Leary reports

guarded independence threatened in a system that will leave them in competition with the likes of Oxford and Cambridge. A spate of mergers can be expected before the funding arrangements change in two or three years.

In the most ambitious scheme to date, the 21 Anglican, Catholic, Methodist and Free Church colleges are examining the feasibility of a Christian university covering the country. A foundation would link the 30,000 students in a collegiate structure that allowed maximum flexibility.

Until the government publishes a bill, none of the colleges can be sure of their prospects, an awkward position to be in as A-level results are published and students are considering their options. The present criteria for polytechnic status has encouraged upheaval in several of the larger institutions, however.

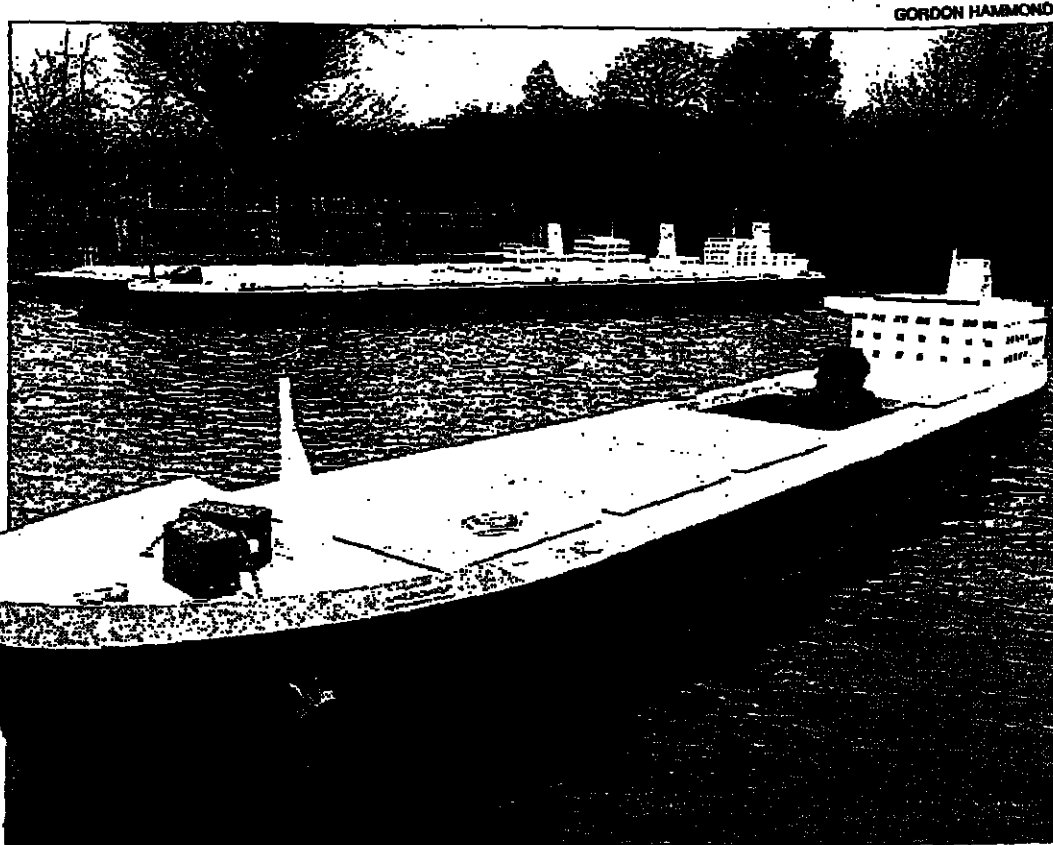
Degree courses have mushroomed to meet the requirement for at least 4,000 full-time higher education students, two-thirds on degrees, in a wide range of sub-

jects. At Luton college of higher education, for example, a full-time undergraduate population of 98 students three years ago had swollen to 1,500 this year after a 40 per cent increase in enrolments, the largest anywhere. The college is aiming for a similar increase this autumn in order to meet the criteria for polytechnic status in two years' time. By then, the part-time courses that used to predominate will form a minority of the work.

Tony Wood, Luton's director and the college principals' national chairman, believes that such inflexible requirements may be frustrating the government's declared wish to preserve the vocational character of the new universities. He says: "We have to switch the pattern of work to meet the criteria, which may not be in the best interests of the students or the nation."

The Southampton Institute is also in the midst of a transformation. It had no full-time degrees until 1989, having concentrated largely on further education until the Education Reform Act encouraged the transfer of such courses to local authority colleges. Now there are 12 full-time and eight part-time degrees, with 13 more ready to start in 1992.

An expansion plan has been brought forward by a year to ensure the institute does not miss the opportunity for promotion.



Full steam ahead: Captain Bob Rowe, a senior lecturer, at the maritime operations centre at Southampton Institute, which has an opportunity to boost its status by becoming a university

David Leyland, the director, insists that the institute will not sacrifice its vocational emphasis in the process. "We have come to the conclusion that to do what we want, we need the change of status," he says. "We are not going into new academic areas and we have no intention of changing our mission."

Mr Leyland adds that the institute is comparable to polytechnics that he saw in their early stages of development. Split be-

tween a city centre campus with a high concentration of accountancy students and a former college of nautical studies several miles away, the institute has little overlap with Southampton university. Even if the eventual bid for university status is unsuccessful, the institute will try to maintain its independence.

Many of the colleges may not, however, be in a position to do so. Of the others validated by the CNAA, only the Bolton Institute,

Cheltenham & Gloucester and Derbyshire colleges are declared aspirants for polytechnic status.

A small number of those associated with universities, such as the Roehampton Institute, in London, and Nene College, in Northampton, is big enough to contemplate a bid.

The remainder must look for new arrangements, or even new partners. Leeds university has already given the status of "university colleges" to the group

'We hope the new system will be flexible enough to accommodate everybody'

of diversified teacher training institutions whose degrees it validates. Other small colleges are expected to seek shelter with their validators in the coming months.

For the medium-size colleges with a range of different courses, a difficult choice is looming. They are too small to survive as free-standing institutions under the present criteria, yet reluctant to be swallowed up by a neighbouring university or polytechnic.

"These colleges have quite a lot of thinking to do in the next six to 12 months," Mr Wood says. "We hope that the new system will be flexible enough to accommodate everybody."

The principals have welcomed the ending of the line between universities and the rest of higher education, and have put the case for maximum flexibility in future. Regardless of university status, they want accreditation to be the sole criterion for the power to award degrees, and the distinction between full-time and part-time courses to disappear.

"All students should be seen to be of equal status and importance," the principals say in their response to the white paper. "There can be little justification in propagating the existing practice whereby contrary distinctions are made within the requirements for polytechnic designation."



Talking the Lancashire "language": Sister Josefa discusses learning needs in Atherton

## Nun sets out on a dialect mission

Sister Josefa wants local 'languages' taken more seriously

Sister Josefa is a nun with more than one mission. The 47-year-old proprietor of a communion wafer-making business in Atherton, Lancashire, is also raising cash for the homeless and is campaigning to have local dialects recognised as separate languages.

The Franciscan Poor Clare has just published a book on the latter topic, having developed her ideas while studying for her honours degree in philosophy at the Bolton institute of higher education.

She believes that dialect speaking has damaged generations of children to sub-standard schooling and a life as second-class citizens. Some of this she has seen first-hand from her home on a council

estate in Leigh, Lancashire. The dialect that youngsters grow up with at home often bears no relation to the standard English they encounter in school, she says. This helps to explain learning difficulties and illiteracy among many poor children, who fail to cope with a language that is alien to them.

Teaching such children English in nursery school as a second language might enable them to do better in examinations, the key to a good career.

The crusade against what she sees as educational apartheid has developed from first-hand observation of children

at the three council estates she has lived on during the past seven years. "Many of the kids here have lost any chance of getting on, even before they start school," she says. "Because they have been raised in a district where everybody speaks dialect — broad Lancashire — they may be hearing standard English for the first time in the classroom."

"They do not understand what the teacher is saying — often vice versa — and because of this, many intelligent and talented youngsters are classified as having special needs, which can be code for being backward or a bit thick."

In Britain, she claims, people are often accepted and promoted according to their accent, not their ability. Speaking in broad dialect is an almost insurmountable barrier to getting on.

Nursery schools are the answer, she believes. "There could be a network of free nursery schools, available to everybody," she says. "Youngsters would be taught to write and speak standard English. By the time they were of school age, they would be starting on the same footing as children who have grown up with standard English."

"I would dearly like to get funding to carry out an experi-

ment at just one school. I have tried to start such groups, but they take money — which I do not have."

Sister Josefa has written to every MP and 100 members of the House of Lords. She has received a handful of replies, among them one from Baroness Warnock, and some academics have also shown interest. Meanwhile, her book, *So Grows The Tree*, is out this month. "I hope it will be read by ordinary people — as well as education specialists — and result in more discussion," she says.

BERNARD SILK

So Grows The Tree is published by Saint Joseph's Workshop Ltd, 199 Reg Lane, Atherton, M29 0JZ (£2, plus 50p postage & packing)

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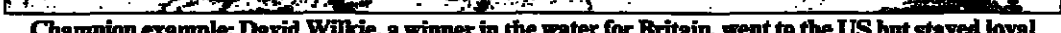


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## NOTICEBOARD

Coaches who checked out the



Dylan Lewis, a 21-year-old Welshman majoring in mathematics at the Florida institute of technology, says: "You have to learn to study." He breezed through A-levels at his

travelling to away fixtures. Mr Lewis's soccer scholarship, covering fees and accommodation, is worth about \$11,000 a year (£6,400). Food and textbooks are not covered and Mr Lewis's parents have to contribute more than \$4,000 (£2,300) a year.

During Mr Lewis's first year in the US, the institute had an unprecedented victory at the finals

duve, and Marianne Joseph, a Geordie, whose golf has improved out of all recognition since he arrived. Mr Joseph, who is taking liberal studies, thinks he could stay in the US after graduating. "The weather is fantastic and the courses are great," he says.

Mr Ladejo has no doubts where his sporting loyalties lie. "I will not be running for the US," he says. Stan Huntsman, the Texas university chief coach, admires his dedication, and sums up the attitude of many American coaches to British imports: "We'll take any more like him you have."

**SCHOOLS** are partly to blame for poverty because they leave their pupils ignorant of budgeting and household management, a pamphlet from a right-wing think tank claims. Digby

while two more will cover teacher training places. Further information is available from Campus 2000, Priory House, St John's Lane, London EC1 4BX (071-782 7104).

**JOHN O'LEARY**

## Continued on next page







McLaren team's work pays dividends

# Senna answers the threat of Mansell in champion's style

FROM NORMAN HOWELL IN BUDAPEST

IT IS hard to describe Ayrton Senna's win in the Hungarian Grand Prix here yesterday without clichés. But he did lead from start to finish and he was in superb form. Behind Senna's McLaren were the Williams-Renaults of Nigel Mansell and Riccardo Patrese. The Brazilian increased his lead over Mansell in the world drivers' championship to 12 points and McLaren lead Williams by two points in the constructors' championship.

Those are the hard facts and to many it may sound as though this was a dull and uneventful Formula One race. It was, in fact, a fine performance by Senna. He showed an unprecedented team effort — a month of intensive work on engines, chassis and fuels — with an all-out attack on the first corner of the Hungarian circuit. He outbraked Patrese, who had made a good start, was first into the corner and then proceeded to control from the front.

Patrese, who stuck to Senna for 45 laps before suffering problems with his brakes, and then Mansell, did all they could to upset the world champion's rhythm. But it was to no avail. Mansell once managed to faint inside the Brazilian, but that was all. He then too suffered a brake problem and fell back.

"The race was won in testing and on that first corner," Senna said. But this was no easy ride for the 31st grand prix win of his career. Testing and getting to the first corner were crucial, but so was his audacious decision to race with two different types of rubber, harder on the left, softer on the right. But the gamble, aimed at minimising tyre wear on the hot track, nearly backfired. "After two laps I thought I had a puncture... so I radioed the pits, and they told me to come in," Senna said. "But I gave it another lap, and somehow the car found its balance."

Senna recognised that this was an important victory, possibly the turning point of the championship. Collectively, the McLaren team has managed to build a lighter chassis, a new engine and develop a qualifying fuel. All of it in a short space of time, and it all came good here.

Mansell was quick to thank Patrese for letting him through when the Italian first had his problems. He was tired, but not discouraged. "We are looking forward to the next fast circuits, like Spa and Monza. We are very quick, but then again it does depend on what McLaren get up to in next week's Monza test."

Ironically, his rival's win must have eased the threat of Senna coming to Williams. McLaren's show of strength will have convinced the Brazilian that his is a team used to winning, yet one that can react with character to the threat posed by Williams and Renault.

Ferrari had a mixed day. Alain Prost blew an engine after only 28 laps and his team colleague, Jean Alesi, had a difficult weekend. After Saturday's qualifying session he complained that the engine lacked straight-line speed. He was told to keep quiet and was not allowed to speak at the traditional press conference at the Italian team's motorhome.

Despite this, Alesi put on a brave face and had a good race. Like Senna, he gambled on an unusual tyre selection which involved a pit stop. "I knew I didn't have the power to compete with the others, so I thought that fresh tyres would give me the edge I needed. But it wasn't so."



Grey's day: William Blane, riding Rag Trade, on the cross-country course at Gatcombe yesterday

## Thomson earns a team place

By JENNY MACARTHUR

AFTER a superb feat of horsemanship, Mary Thomson retained her national horse trials title at Gatcombe Park yesterday when she and King William won the Macdonald-Mason British Open championships.

Thomson, who relegated Pippa Nolan and Sir Barnaby to second place for the second successive year, has now almost certainly earned her place on the British squad for the European three-day event championships in Ireland next month, for which Gatcombe was a final trial.

"My main object was to get round clear to impress the selectors," Thomson, who has never ridden for the British team despite being short-listed on three previous occasions, said. "Retaining the national title was a bonus."

Neither Nolan nor Judy Herbert, who finished third on Chaka, are on the short-list. Nolan, whose 14-year-old Sir Barnaby skipped round the 29-fence course as if it were a pony club event, now regrets her decision not to run him in the major selection trial at Badminton last May.

"I thought he had already

proved himself at Badminton and there was not any point in taking him there again," she said yesterday. Despite winning the Lumley three-day event in Germany in July, the selectors have not short-listed this brilliant combination.

Herbert lost her chance of selection after a mistake at the water at Badminton. Since then, she has had an outstanding season with the Sir Michael Turner-owned Chaka, winning at Sharnbury Green and Dauntsey. Yesterday, she

underlined her new confidence with an authoritative round which lifted her a point ahead of her neighbour, Jemima Johnson on Timber Run.

With riders going in reverse order of merit over the cross-country course yesterday, the pressure was intense. Nolan, lying seventh, put made it tougher still for the leaders with a clear round over the 2½-mile course in 6min 55sec.

Ian Stark, who had had an uncharacteristic run out on

Glenburnie at fence seven, produced a fine round on Murphy Himself, which, but for a near-mistake at the twelfth fence, where he wasted nearly 20 seconds, might have matched Nolan's time.

Thomson, decided to play safe on her eight-year-old and went the long route at fences six and seven but at halfway she heard that Stark had failed to overtake Nolan. "I realised then how fast Pippa must have gone, so I pushed on," Thomson said. Her better dressage score meant that she could finish in 7min 21sec and still win. She finished in 7min 56sec.

## Baillieu ends Artillery threat

By JOHN WATSON

THE Pony Club championships, which began early last month with an entry of 32 teams, reduced to 12 qualifying matches at 12 different clubs, was concluded on the Cowdray Park subsidiary grounds at Ambersham, Sussex, over the weekend.

The final of the Daily Telegraph trophy, for entries in the Jack Gannon category (under-21s) was won Cowdray, who beat the Royal Artillery (received 1½) 5-3½. The Royal Artillery, led by two experienced 19-year-olds, Howard Smith and Targuin Southall, were ahead until the last chukka, when Cowdray launched a strong offensive. Their No. 3, Alexander Baillieu, smacked home the conclusive goal.

The tournament for the Pony Club's principal prize, the Rendell Cup (for under-19s), over two chukkas, went to Quorn, who beat the Hampshire Hunts 3-2. The Hampshire Hunts, who were pivoted on Christian Bearman, had a clear advantage in the first chukka and played an excellent defensive game in the second.

But they failed to mark the Quorn No. 3, Peter Webb, closely enough, and he galloped through to equalise at 2-2. Extra play consisted of a race from one end of the ground to the other, with Quorn claiming victory by being the first team to get the ball over the opposite back line.

The Loriners trophy (for under-16s) was won by the Pynchley, with Bicester second. Division II went to the Royal Artillery (I), who thus carried off the Hillingdon Hall Cup, with Cotswold (II) second. The down East were top of the Handley Cross section (for under-14s), while the Jorrock cup for Handley Cross Division II went to the Ashford Valley.

Malcolm Borwick was awarded the Lodsworth polo stick for the boy showing most promise, and Nushin Dowlatshahi the equivalent Mary Taylor trophy for girls. Sophie West won the Young Telegraph award for the best player under 14.

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The Times continues the countdown to the football season

# Villa not exactly the soft option

By PETER BALL

RON Atkinson has been called a lot of things for his move from Sheffield Wednesday to Aston Villa. Brave has not often been one of them, nor foolhardy, but one or other could prove the most appropriate description when the abuse has died down.

Atkinson is not given to public self-doubt, or introspection, but leaving a newly promoted, settled team of considerable potential and a club of solid worth for Aston Villa is a high-risk enterprise in a season when relegation will almost certainly mean beginning life outside the Premier League elite.

In some ways, with a maverick chairman in Doug Ellis at his back and a much poorer inheritance than awaited him at Old Trafford, but with



almost equal expectations, it is the biggest challenge of Atkinson's career.

Villa supporters and chairman alike see the biggest club in the Midlands as belonging with the big five. A post-war history of mediocrity alleviated only by a controversial FA Cup win in 1957 and by League, championship and European Cup successes at the beginning of the last decade, suggests otherwise.

"If you look at the pattern of the last three seasons, three years ago they were nearly

relegated, the next year they nearly won the championship, then last year they went perilously close to relegation again," Atkinson said. "So you wonder what their true level is. Everyone talks about the year they came second, but when you take the other two years you wonder, 'well, maybe that was nearer the mark with what I've got'."

With David Platt on his way to Bari when Atkinson arrived, he has at least been able to use the money to begin some major restructuring. "I felt the place needed a shake-up, and I've tried to do that," he said. "There may even be a bigger shake-up still to come. It's certainly the busiest summer I've ever had... something like 14 transfer deals, a two-week tour of Germany, et cetera."

As well as Platt, Tony

Cascarino has gone. In their place have come a mixed bag - young hopefuls of growing reputation, major signings in Dalian Atkinson, whose sale financed the rebuilding at Sheffield Wednesday, Steve Staunton and Kevin Richardson, and perhaps surprisingly two free transfers in Cyrille Regis and Les Sealey. Useful squad players, perhaps?

"Knowing those two I don't think they'd be very pleased with that description," Atkinson said. "Les has played in more Cup Finals recently than some of our players have League matches. For three years people have been saying Cyrille was finished but every time I saw Coventry in that time he was easily their best player, the only threat."

He is equally enthusiastic about his younger signings and some of the players he has



Atkinson: huge challenge

inherited. Among the former is Shaun Teale, from Bourne-mouth, who he says reminds him of Kevin Beattie for his power and "like Stuart Pearce, gives you the impression he likes defending. There's a few of them don't like doing that."

Characteristically, though, he is more eloquent about the

positive virtues, selecting Dwight Yorke as a player he expects a lot from. "He is not only a fair player, but he has a tremendous enthusiasm and a tremble for the game."

With Regis, Daley and Dalian Atkinson, they will not lack pace. Villa Park will not lack bustling enthusiasm either, with Atkinson in charge and Andy Gray as his assistant. The football, it is safe to assume, will reflect the same lively approach. Certainly Atkinson will succeed or fail by his own beliefs.

He has been given a high-profile start, opening the season with a dramatic return to Hillsborough on Saturday, followed by Manchester United and Liverpool visiting Villa Park in quick succession. "After the first week, I'll either be manager of the month or out of a job."

## Tottenham stifle the champions

Arsenal..... 0  
Tottenham Hotspur..... 0

By STUART JONES  
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THE system devised by David Platt five years ago in his last season in charge of Tottenham Hotspur is to be deployed again this season by the club's new manager, Peter Shreeves. A lone forward, Gary Lineker, will be supported by five assistants in midfield.

The formations may appear identical but there is a profound difference between the designs of the respective managers. Platt introduced it to enhance the attacking instincts of his squad. Shreeves, whose choice is more limited and less varied, is using it as a defensive measure.

Although Tottenham were the more inventive during the Charity Shield match at Wembley on Saturday, their principal quality was their resilience. It enabled them yet again to defy Arsenal, the League champions. For the third time in a year, the north London rivals shared a goalless draw.

In spite of the stifling heat, Shreeves resisted the temptation to send on any substitutes. "That is probably the team which will start the season against Southampton on Saturday," he said, and although it is the system which suits us best, we need to get better at it."

Tottenham will attempt to refine it during a tournament in Bari, where they are seeded to meet Juventus in the final tomorrow night, but it would seem to be fundamentally flawed. Lineker, who operates more effectively with a partner, has no one to share the responsibility for scoring.

Paul Allen, Howells, Nwankwo and Sawyer, who several times rejected a clear opportunity to take on Arsenal's isolated central defender on Saturday, he threatened the club record of 37 League goals set by Greaves in 1963. In 39 appearances, he fell only four short.

Tottenham did fashion one of the few bright openings of the afternoon. Samways, regarded as Gascoigne's potential successor, broke on the left, evaded Adams and



Early-season hurdle: Fenwick's sliding tackle leaves Allen, left, and Merson ahead of the play at Wembley

from defensive duties by Platt and constantly prompted by Ardlies, he was given the freedom to shape most all of Tottenham's attacking ideas. They were invariably finished by Clive Allen. A more selfish predator than Lineker, who several times rejected a clear opportunity to take on Arsenal's isolated central defender on Saturday, he threatened the club record of 37 League goals set by Greaves in 1963. In 39 appearances, he fell only four short.

Tottenham did fashion one of the few bright openings of the afternoon. Samways, regarded as Gascoigne's potential successor, broke on the left, evaded Adams and

chipped deliberately beyond the far post towards Nwankwo. His downward header ricocheted off the legs of Seaman, who was otherwise wholly unimpaired.

Arsenal, for all of their appreciable territorial advantage and especially after the interval, had striking problems of their own. George Graham, as well as agreeing that his side played below their usual standard in the first half, accepted that "we need to work on our finishing".

Campbell was the main culprit. Released delightfully by Davis, he could do no more than lob over both Thorstvedt and the bar. Cole, a substitute, completed Arsenal's uninspired challenge by shooting into the side netting, which annoyed his manager since it was the only other opportunity to be created.

Rather than highlight the deficiencies of his own attack, though, he preferred to praise the defence of the opposition. "They were resolute," he said. The word is not often used to describe Tottenham's style but it promises to be more applicable this season.

At Wembley At: 65,483 Ref: T J Holbrook  
Charity Shield record: Arsenal W7, L4; Tottenham W4, L4

HT: 0-0 ARSENAL 0 TOTENHAM 0  
Scorers: — Van Den Hauwe 53  
Cautions: Rocastle 52  
Subs: Thomas, Cole 77  
(Campbell, Rocastle)

	ARSENAL	TOTENHAM
Shots (on target/total)	3 11	2 4
Goals (left/right)	3 8	1 1
Crosses (left/right)	14 24	11 8
Fouls (left/right)	5 4	12 8
Offsides	—	3
Possession (gained/lost)	37 85	34 85

ARSENAL (4-4-2)				TOTENHAM (3-5-3)			
Player	Goal	Crosses	Fouls	Player	Goal	Crosses	Fouls
D Seaman	—	—	—	E Thorstvedt	—	—	—
D Seaman	—	—	—	D Seaman	—	—	—
N Winkler	—	—	—	P Van der Hauwe	—	—	—
D Hillier	—	—	—	S Sealey	—	—	—
D Hillier	—	—	—	D Seaman	—	—	—
T Adams	—	—	—	G Sealey	—	—	—
R Rocastle	—	—	—	Nwankwo	—	—	—
P Davis	—	—	—	S Sealey	—	—	—
A Smith	—	—	—	V Samways	—	—	—
K Cameron	—	—	—	P Sealey	—	—	—
K Cameron	—	—	—	P Sealey	—	—	—
M Thomas	—	—	—	P Sealey	—	—	—
A Cole	—	—	—	P Sealey	—	—	—

Unsubstituted: A Loughlin, S Jones, A Miller

In the first Charity Shield meeting of the North London rivals, Tottenham's five-man midfield, supported by lone Lineker, produced only four attempts on goal. Their ten offences also highlighted inadequacies against a well-disciplined defence. Arsenal's dominance in attack was evident with 11 goal attempts, nine crosses and 38 crosses, the quality of the latter, however, leaving Smith without a scoring chance.

Compiled by Julian Dobson

## Brady off to flyer as goals rain in

By RODDY FORSYTH

THE first day of the Scottish league season produced a remarkable harvest of goals. The highest aggregate among the premier division was at Tannadice where the new Celtic manager, Liam Brady, saw his team beat Dundee United by the odd goal in seven. The most memorable contribution came from John Collins with an outstanding strike towards the end of each half.

Both were spectacular efforts from 25 yards, the first from his left foot, the second delivered by his right. Nicholas and Coyne were the other Celtic scorers while O'Neill, with two goals, and Ferguson were United's contributors.

Rangers, however, began as they finished last season, at the head of the table. They demolished St Johnstone 6-0 at Ibrox with two penalties from John Johnston, three goals by Halsey and another from Ferguson in a game which ran away from the visitors after their central defender, Inglis, was sent off for a foul on Halsey midway through the first half.

Aberdeen, last season's runners-up, were alarmed at Broomfield where Lawrence gave Airdrieonians the lead, but Irvine and Gillespie, with a goal in the final minute, secured four points for the visitors. The other promoted team, Falkirk, also went ahead against fancied opposition when Stairford scored against Motherwell, but a Nijholt penalty in the second half guaranteed the Scottish Cup holders a draw.

Heart of Midlothian scored the first competitive goal of the season when Craig Reid netted against Dundee in their 2-1 win at East End Park, while the other Edinburgh team, Hibernian, was unexpectedly prolific against St Mirren at Easter Road where Weir and McGinlay scored two goals each for the home team. A total of 27 goals, at an average of 4.5 per game, represented a good start in the premier league, unless you were a defender.

Parker put the Republic in front with an own goal in the 41st minute. Bryan Robson redeemed things with the equaliser but Steve Bruce twisted his knee, making him doubtful for the start of the season.

STIR Max Busby received about £250,000 as 35,410 supporters turned up at Old Trafford to salute the club's most famous former manager. But for Paul Parker, making his first appearance for Manchester United, in a 1-1 draw against the Republic of Ireland, it was a match he will want to forget.

Parker put the Republic in front with an own goal in the 41st minute. Bryan Robson redeemed things with the equaliser but Steve Bruce twisted his knee, making him doubtful for the start of the season.

## RACING

## Ruby Tiger out for season after injuring a knee

By GEORGE RAE

PAUL Cole is hopeful Ruby Tiger will be able to run again next season after cracking a bone (fissure) in her knee. The problem was diagnosed after her superb seven lengths victory in the Nassau Stakes at Goodwood nine days ago.

Cole has turned to John Wainwright, the Liphook vet who has enjoyed great success in bringing horses back from injury, to treat Ruby Tiger. Wainwright's credits include this year's Stewards' Cup winner, Notley, whose knees were once so bad that trainer Richard Hannon feared the colt may have to be put down.

The setback to Ruby Tiger is a rare black spot in a remarkable season for Cole. The filly, who during her career has been campaigned throughout Europe and North America to amass more than £400,000 in win and place prize money, had been scheduled for the Beverley D Stakes at Arlington Park, Chicago, followed by the Japan Cup before being sidelined.

In a quiet week for domestic racing, Henry Cecil turns his attention to Deauville. He will run the progressive Lancashire Oaks winner Patricia in the Prix de Pomme over an extended mile and five furlongs on Thursday and then sends Great Mar, second to Further Flight in the Goodwood Cup, over 15 furlongs.

Michael Stoute is also looking ahead to the big prize in his case at York. Stagecraft worked at Newmarket on Saturday and is on course for the Juddmonte International a week tomorrow. "But you must have a lot of respect for the grey horse," Stoute said, referring to James Fanshawe's Environment Friend. The grey beat Stagecraft

by a head in the Coral-Eclipse Stakes at Sandown last month. Tiddemack, trained by Luca Cumani, remains on course for the Ebor Handicap after his victory, courtesy of the Stewards, in the Brierley New Zealand Handicap at Newmarket on Saturday. Spinning finished first by half-length but was adjudged to have hampered Tiddemack inside the final furlong. The placings were reversed.

"I thought it was a good effort in a race which did not have much pace," Cumani said. Ladbrokes and Hills agreed, and both have cut Tiddemack from 10-1 to 8-1, a mark on which the shares favouritism with Richard Hannon's First Victory. Rinja, the winner of the Bessborough Handicap at Royal Ascot, is third best at 10-1.

Tiddemack's victory, Lafranconi, completed a treble with Aitch N'Be in the Dickens Invitation Stakes and Royal Blue Bell, who gave Cumani a double.

At Haydock, man-of-the-moment Alan Munro found the perfect occasion to ride his first winner for Barry Hills since 1984. Hills gave Munro his first-ever success in the Sentinels Stakes at Haydock in 1984, and Munro repaid the long-standing debt by bringing home Lord Of Tumors the winner of the group three Burtonwood Brewery Race of Lancashire Stakes.

Hills will look to supplement the pattern race victory with another at Baden-Baden later this month. Steve Wood was suspended for two days (August 19-20) for excessive use of whip on Marlingford, beaten a head by Able Player in the John Mallinson Handicap.

## Hector Protector has brave victory

FROM OUR FRENCH RACING CORRESPONDENT, DEAUVILLE

HECTOR Protector, the 5-4 favourite, prevailed in a thrilling finish to beat Lycius a nose in the Prix Jacques Le Marois at Deauville yesterday in which barely a length separated the first five home.

Francois Boutin, who captured all three Deauville group races at the weekend, was convinced that Hector Protector was beaten a furlong out. "I did not think he would make the first two, but his great courage got him home," said Boutin, who was winning the Jacques Le Marois for the fourth time in the last five years.

The intended lone British runner Sikeston did not travel to Deauville, after coughing on Saturday. Beaulieu had earlier won the £20,367 Prix Gontaut-Biron with Murot, in which Chris Wall's Candy Glen finished third. The Lamorlaye trainer had a treble on Saturday, which included Lorymay in the £20,367 Prix de Psyche.

Deauville result  
Going: good  
PRIZ DU HARAS DE FRESNAY-LE-BUFFARD JACQUES LE MAROIS (G) 1500m (5 furlongs)  
1. HECTOR PROTECTOR (F) 5-4, 2. Lycius (F) 6-1, 3. Doreenne Du Sud (F) 8-1, 4. Sikeston (F) 10-1, 5. Murot (F) 12-1, 6. Candy Glen (F) 15-1, 7. Lorymay (F) 16-1, 8. Murot (F) 18-1, 9. Murot (F) 20-1, 10. Murot (F) 25-1, 11. Murot (F) 30-1, 12. Murot (F) 40-1, 13. Murot (F) 50-1, 14. Murot (F) 60-1, 15. Murot (F) 80-1, 16. Murot (F) 100-1, 17. Murot (F) 120-1, 18. Murot (F) 150-1, 19. Murot (F) 200-1, 20. Murot (F) 300-1, 21. Murot (F) 400-1, 22. Murot (F) 500-1, 23. Murot (F) 600-1, 24. Murot (F) 800-1, 25. Murot (F) 1000-1, 26. Murot (F) 1200-1, 27. Murot (F) 1500-1, 28. Murot (F) 2000-1, 29. Murot (F) 3000-1, 30. Murot (F) 4000-1, 31. Murot (F) 5000-1, 32. Murot (F) 6000-1, 33. Murot (F) 8000-1, 34. Murot (F) 10000-1, 35. Murot (F) 12000-1, 36. Murot (F) 15000-1, 37. Murot (F) 20000-1, 38. Murot (F) 30000-1, 39. Murot (F) 40000-1, 40. Murot (F) 50000-1, 41. Murot (F) 60000-1, 42. Murot (F) 80000-1, 43. Murot (F) 100000-1, 44. Murot (F) 120000-1, 45. Murot (F) 150000-1, 46. 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# Nottinghamshire keep up pressure at top of the table

By RICHARD STREETON

TRENT BRIDGE (Kent won toss): Nottinghamshire (4pts) beat Kent by four wickets

HARD hitting by Paul Pollard and Franklyn Stephenson in the closing stages yesterday enabled Nottinghamshire to reach 218 to win this match with one over to spare.

It ensured that Nottinghamshire stayed on Lancashire's heels at the top of the Refuge Assurance League. Both teams have two matches to play, Lancashire at home to Surrey and Essex, and Nottinghamshire away to Yorkshire before meeting Derbyshire at home.

Yesterday, Broad hit freely to make 76 as Nottinghamshire made a brisk start before the run rate slowed. Nottinghamshire needed 66 from the last ten overs but Broad and Saxelby were dismissed by Falham in successive overs before Pollard and French

regained the momentum needed. When French gave mid-off a catch, 24 were wanted from three overs. Pollard drove and pulled freely as he made 56 not out from 52 balls. Stephenson clinched victory when he took 14 from the last five balls from McCague in the 39th over.

Kent's announcement on Saturday that they would not be offering Chris Cowdrey a new contract next season inevitably remained a talking point throughout an entertaining match. A knee injury and burns sustained in a bonfire accident have recently restricted Cowdrey's availability and the club has decided that he does not have a part to play in their future. Cowdrey, aged 33, played for Kent from 1985 to 1990. He also led England in one of the six Test matches he played.

Yesterday, Kent could thank their wicketkeeper, Marsh, for enabling them to finish with a larger total than seemed probable when they were 104 for five from 23 overs. Marsh, who is approaching 1,000 first-class runs for the first time, hit judiciously for 56 as he provided further evidence of his batting improvement this season.

There has simultaneously been no falling away in Marsh's wicketkeeping and his selection for the England A one-day internationals with Sri Lanka this coming week has delighted everyone in the hop county. At the moment, Marsh is also acting as captain in Benson's absence with a back injury.

After Stephenson beat Hinks in the sixth over, as the batsman played back, Ward, Taylor, Fleming and Graham Cowdrey all got themselves caught from lofted hits. Ward, another England A choice, fell to a superb catch on the square-leg fence. Hemmings took the catch above his head when a six looked certain.

Taylor was held at long-off, Fleming by Pollard over his shoulder at long-on and Cowdrey from a steeper to deep mid-off.

Marsh was soon into his stride, driving confidently and finding the gaps with few problems. He lifted Evans for six on the legside and also hit seven fours as he reached 50 from 42 balls.

Ellison supported him soundly and helped to add 59 in seven overs for the seventh wicket before Marsh was bowled as he drove extravagantly against Stephenson.

## Gatting slow bowl goes undetected

GIMMICKY has a part to play in the Refuge Assurance League (Ivo Tennant writes). But BSkyB's attempts to link up Mike Gatting at the crease and in the field at Lord's yesterday were scuppered by the Test and County Cricket Board.

Middlesex supporters believe that Gatting has no need of microphones, loud speakers, tannoy and the like, anyway. His admonishments and words of encouragement can be picked up well beyond the boundary. His slower ball is far less easily detectable, and Bowler, the one Derbyshire batsman who

looked capable of winning the match against Middlesex fell for it.

Gatting did have some assistance from Pooley, whose maiden Sunday league century was in no way overshadowed by Derbyshire could not match the run rate he set. There was a century, too, by Moxon for Gloucestershire against Sussex, and it helped his county into the leading four in the table.

Cortey made his highest Sunday score to date for Gloucestershire, an unbeaten 92, and it helped his county to victory over the bottom club, Hampshire.

## Austin's spell swings game

By JACK BAILEY

Bristol (Lancashire won toss): Lancashire (4pts) beat Gloucestershire by eight wickets

THERE were few moments when Lancashire's dominance of the Refuge Assurance League was in danger. Any doubts that existed prior to an interruption for rain, which reduced the match to 29 overs per side, were soon dispelled. As if the problem of finding themselves with only five overs left were not enough, Gloucestershire were confronted by an inspired spell from Ian Austin, the stocky all-rounder, and from 93 for four, they subsided to 108 all out.

In nine balls Austin took four wickets for two runs. All the wickets were genuine, in that the batsmen were beaten comprehensively, and they took

Austin past Wasim Akram's previous record haul for Lancashire in this competition. Austin now has 28 wickets.

Lancashire's batsmen were always in command. They lost Moxon and Fowler for 43 but once Fairbrother joined Lloyd their was no way in to the match for Gloucestershire. These two added 69 in 12 overs and swept Lancashire to victory with six overs to spare.

Before administering his coup de grace, Austin had already distinguished himself in the field. He moved swiftly from mid-wicket to wide mid-on on the way to throwing down the one stump visible as Russell struggled to make his ground. By then, Athey was already back in the pavilion, only 22 runs had been scored and Wright and

Alleyne needed as much to take account of restoring order as scoring quickly.

Wright's 33 was a brave effort. It gave some semblance of respectability to Gloucestershire's batting. With Alleyne he took the score to 65 for two from 17 overs. But when he took an acrobatic catch by Watkinson off his own bowling, Gloucestershire were in trouble. The rain, followed by Austin's inspired burst, made it just that much worse.

Fairbrother, showing no sign of the tight hamstring which had kept him out of the county championship match, once more underlined what an adept performer he is at the limited-overs game. Lloyd was solid in support, which was all that was required of him.



Popular appeal: Tufnell successfully claims Marshall's wicket yesterday

## Carelessness leads to test of character

ON THE way to the Oval last Thursday morning, I found myself trying to recall a home Test match when England appeared to have less chance of bowling their opponents out twice, and I was hard put to think of one.

A number of wickets would probably come England's way through West Indian recklessness, and there would be times when our hopes would be raised. But the pitch was sure to be a good one, and it was difficult not to be gloomy. Yet there England were on Saturday, taking 12 wickets and with Tufnell striking a wonderfully welcome blow for the spinning fraternity.

Having been more careless than usual in their first in-

nings, West Indies went in a second time determined to pull themselves together, and in the process they have produced a classic blend, uncompromising Caribbean, of attack and defence.

Yesterday's cricket had just about everything: a brilliant innings by Richardson; a last, lingering look at Richardson; such strokes by Hooper as elicited memories of Frank Worrell, the most graceful and stylish of all West Indian batsmen; some flighted spin and varied pace; a full house; a wholesome spirit and constant fluctuations. On days like this, the game itself is the winner.

True, West Indies have yet to be bowled out again. But there were three or four leg-before decisions which went West Indies' way and could just as easily have gone England's, and so far Gooch's bowlers have done him as well as his batsmen did. I was puzzled and sorry only that more use was not made yesterday of Botham. It is because he still has the knack of making things happen in the way others cannot that he is in the side.

For me the best moment of the last two days came not in the West Indies first innings but yesterday morning, when Tufnell, after being heavily punished in his two opening overs, kept inviting the bats-

men to play their shots, set a more traditional, slow left-armers' field (a silly plot retreated to short extra cover), and lured Hooper into a driving error.

So came Vivian Richards, cheered all the way to the wicket. Don Bradman failed here to score four runs to finish his Test career with an average of 100. Assuming this to have been Richards's final innings — and there is no harm in hoping that he will change his mind — he needed to score 20 yesterday to finish his Test career averaging 50, which, happily, he did.

For some time now the Richards Test average has been hovering around the 50 mark. At Headingley, in the

first Test of this series, it dropped into the forties for the first time since 1976, a year in which he scored 1,710 Test runs. Despite what they may say, precious few cricketers neither know nor care what their average is. There is a proper vanity in knowing, though, for, of course, in playing for England, it is not just a vanity but a necessity. Richards, I believe, is the exception to the rule. If figures meant more to him, he would have scored more than one century in his last 33 Test innings. That he should join the company of batsmen who have averaged 50 in Tests probably means more to me than to him. I mind less otherwise, such a marvelous player should be underrated.

### Refuge Assurance League

#### Middx v Derbyshire

LORD'S (Derbyshire won toss): Middlesex (4pts) beat Derbyshire by four wickets

Middlesex (4pts) beat Derbyshire by four wickets

#### Gloucestershire v Hampshire

EBW VALE (Gloucestershire won toss): Gloucestershire (4pts) beat Hampshire by six runs

#### Lancashire v Warwickshire

Lancashire (4pts) beat Warwickshire by eight wickets

### YORKSHIRE

#### Leeds v Yorkshire

Leeds (4pts) beat Yorkshire by four wickets

#### Nottinghamshire v Essex

Nottinghamshire (4pts) beat Essex by four wickets

#### Sussex v Kent

Sussex (4pts) beat Kent by four wickets

#### Warwickshire v Leics

Warwickshire (4pts) beat Leics by four wickets

### NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

#### Leeds v Yorkshire

Leeds (4pts) beat Yorkshire by four wickets

#### Nottinghamshire v Essex

Nottinghamshire (4pts) beat Essex by four wickets

#### Sussex v Kent

Sussex (4pts) beat Kent by four wickets

#### Warwickshire v Leics

Warwickshire (4pts) beat Leics by four wickets

### Derbyshire

#### Leeds v Yorkshire

Leeds (4pts) beat Yorkshire by four wickets

#### Nottinghamshire v Essex

Nottinghamshire (4pts) beat Essex by four wickets

#### Sussex v Kent

Sussex (4pts) beat Kent by four wickets

#### Warwickshire v Leics

Warwickshire (4pts) beat Leics by four wickets

### Essex

#### Leeds v Yorkshire

Leeds (4pts) beat Yorkshire by four wickets

#### Nottinghamshire v Essex

Nottinghamshire (4pts) beat Essex by four wickets

#### Sussex v Kent

Sussex (4pts) beat Kent by four wickets

#### Warwickshire v Leics

Warwickshire (4pts) beat Leics by four wickets

### Gloucestershire

#### Leeds v Yorkshire

Leeds (4pts) beat Yorkshire by four wickets

#### Nottinghamshire v Essex

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Nottinghamshire (4pts) beat Essex by four wickets

#### Sussex v Kent

Sussex (4pts) beat Kent by four wickets

#### Warwickshire v Leics

Warwickshire (4pts) beat Leics by four wickets

### Warwickshire

#### Leeds v Yorkshire

Leeds (4pts) beat Yorkshire by four wickets

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